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19 June Middle East and South Asia Review

LD191338 [Editorial Report]

Lebanon

Kidnapping of U.S. Journalist — The group of armed men who abducted U.S. journalist Charles Glass together with the son of Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran and an aide in the Al-Awza'i area of West Beirut 17 June belong to a group led by Khomeyni supporter 'Imad Mighanniyah, Voice of Lebanon radio stated. The radio added, however, that no group has yet claimed responsibility for the action. The three kidnap victims were taken to a building in the B'ir al-'Abid area in the southern suburbs of Beirut. The defense minister immediately contacted Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the head of the Syrian military observers in Lebanon, and Hezbollah spiritual leader Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah and other Shi'ite religious leaders, AFP noted.

A source "close to the Syrians" said the kidnappers have contacted the Syrian forces in Lebanon to arrange a deal for the release of Glass, Voice of Lebanon reported. According to the source, one of the kidnappers "has been identified" and is trying to "save his life" through a deal. Meanwhile, AFP quoted a member of the 'Usayran family as saying the minister's son refuses to be released without Glass. The family member said he had had "indirect contacts" with the kidnappers, who find themselves "in a dilemma."

The Supreme Shi'ite Islamic Council "denounced" the kidnapping and demanded the immediate release of the victims, saying it "rejects and condemns" such activity, Beirut radio reported. "This method is illegal and totally unjustified," the council added. The radio noted that Defense Minister 'Usayran has been contacted by President Amin al-Jumayyil, the Chamber of Deputies speaker, the acting prime minister, and other officials. 'Usayran later called on the acting prime minister to discuss the abduction, according to another Beirut radio report. Al-Huss "strongly condemned" the action, saying such things serve only the enemies of Lebanon.

Clash in South — Three "terrorists" were killed in an overnight clash with an IDF unit near Hasbayya, IDF radio stated 18 June. According to the Voice of National Resistance, a group of fighters ambushed an occupation forces patrol near Hasbayya and killed or wounded seven of its members. Three of the ambush group were killed, while a fourth managed to withdraw.

Al-Shariqah Leadership Crisis

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi affirmed he will remain in power in place of his brother Shaykh Sultan, the

UAE Supreme Council pronouncement that the change in leadership was null and void notwithstanding, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz said his family has pledged allegiance to him and that there is no cause for anxiety about the security of the emirate. The new ruler appointed 21 officials to "important, major posts." The UAE Supreme Council held a lengthy session on 18 July but did not adopt any new stands on the situation. In a statement cited by WAKH, the council announced it would continue meeting to ensure the success of current efforts to resolve the crisis in the "spirit of one family." In an exchange of messages, Saudi Arabia's King Fahd expressed "full confidence" in the ability of the UAE president to bring stability back to his country, and the UAE president expressed "deep gratitude and appreciation" for the Saudi king's "mature and responsible concern" for the stability of the region, Radio Monte Carlo noted.

Meanwhile, Dubayy radio reported that Shaykh Sultan received the "notables" of the emirate who came to his residence to congratulate him on his safe return to his homeland. In the meeting, which was attended by several members of the Al-Qasimi family, the visitors renewed their allegiance to Shaykh Sultan, "the legitimate ruler of the emirate."

Israel

Entry visas have been issued to a Soviet consular delegation that is expected to arrive at the beginning of July, Jerusalem radio reported. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the visas were issued in the Netherlands Embassy in Moscow, which represents Israeli interests, and added that Israel has not requested reciprocity but that an Israeli application for entry visits to the Soviet Union "would not be refused." The visas are valid for a stay of up to 6 months but include the option of extension. IDF radio reported that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's office was "surprised" at the announcement of the issuance of the visas. Shamir has maintained that the visit of the Soviet consular delegation should be made conditional on a parallel visit to the Soviet Union by an Israeli delegation.

Three Knesset members were part of large delegation of Israeli women who left for the Soviet Union on 18 June, Jerusalem radio noted.

Libya

A "high-level" delegation led by a cousin of Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi is currently in France to negotiate a settlement of the Chad situation, according to an article in the UAE's Al-Itihad cited by KUNA. The talks, which involve the release of a number of Libyan prisoners taken in the most recent fighting in northern Chad, are said to be "going well."

Arab League's Klibi Views N. Africa, Gulf Scenes
PM181007 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic
 13 Jun 87 pp 14, 15

[Interview with Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, by Bakr 'Uwaydah in Geneva; date not given]

[Excerpts][passage omitted] *Al-Tadamun*: After the Algerian-Moroccan meeting and the improvement in Tunisian-Libyan relations, are there any new developments regarding an Iraqi-Syrian reconciliation in view of recent reports on this issue?

Klibi: In fact, as I observed earlier, this is one of the points which confirms that we are now experiencing a solidarity phase. A series of inter-Arab meetings have certainly taken place. A summit was held on the Algerian-Moroccan borders, thanks to King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques. His efforts resulted in the convening of that important summit. Although it is true that the summit did not produce immediate results, it did create a new climate for relations in the region. There is also Tunisian-Libyan rapprochement. After the crisis in relations between these two fraternal countries, we have begun to move toward rapprochement and relaxation in order to restore relations to their correct position. Signs of rapprochement between Damascus and Baghdad have begun to emerge. Although such an Iraqi-Syrian relaxation has not been announced, there is cause for optimism. We hope that a firm base will be established for all efforts aimed at securing peace in the region, both between Iraq and Iran and with regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict. We also hope that a foundation will be established on which to restore the Palestinian people's rights and recover the occupied Arab territories.

Al-Tadamun: Does your information, Mr Secretary General, confirm the holding of an Iraq-Iran summit, about which people have been speculating?

Klibi: No, I cannot confirm that. It is not the Arab League secretary general's business to confirm or deny such a matter. But I can repeat and confirm that such a relaxation is happening and that signs of it have begun to emerge. I would not go any further than that.

Al-Tadamun: Arab solidarity is witnessing a state of growth and you have referred to the importance of the PNC meeting in Algiers. However, a dispute took place between Morocco and the PLO after that meeting. Have you made any efforts to contain this dispute so that it does not turn into a crack in the edifice of Arab solidarity?

Klibi: We were saddened by the misunderstanding that took place. We are working to restore matters to normal, and there are in fact good endeavors being made by many parties in this regard. We will also participate in such efforts. [Passage omitted]

Al-Tadamun: Does this state of growth to which you refer make you optimistic about the holding of an Arab summit — the postponed Riyadh summit — before the end of 1987?

Klibi: I have always said that optimism alone is not enough. Optimism can be counterproductive if not accompanied by

efforts, determination, and firmness. Yes, it is true that there are indications from which we should benefit and not just be content with. We should work toward developing and strengthening such indications in order to achieve a better situation. [passage omitted]

Al-Tadamun: Since Iraq's accidental attack on the U.S. frigate *Stark* there has been an increasing demand for a greater Western military presence in Gulf waters. Reagan is openly calling on his allies to play a role in this regard, and the Venice summit is expected to discuss the issue. How does the secretary general view this situation? Is it heading toward a more tense and explosive situation?

Klibi: We said some time ago that international efforts must join together to end this war. We must do this not just because it affects the two disputing parties, namely Iraq and Iran — with the knowledge that Iraq has clarified its desire for peace — but also because this war is dangerous. Its continuation threatens international relations, peace, and security. Since the recent series of events, the big powers have begun to understand that this war is in fact threatening their interests as well as international peace. I believe that this is a positive factor. The United States and the Soviet Union now feel the burden of this war and realize their duty to end it. The permanent members of the UN Security Council share this sentiment. Therefore, I believe that we are in a positive stage that will enable us to push forward. This we will do in order to secure a decisive international stand that will impose an end to this war.

Al-Tadamun: Do you hope that the upcoming Venice summit will adopt such a stand?

Klibi: We hope that the Venice summit will be a starting point for formulating a clear international stand. But the decision belongs to the Security Council, for the Soviet Union and China are outside the Venice summit and they must play a role in a collective action in this regard. I believe that the Security Council should convene within the next few days, consider all these issues, and adopt a decisive position. [passage omitted]

Morocco's Filali Comments on Arab, Maghreb Issues
NC181116 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0720 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jun (MENA) — Moroccan Foreign Affairs Minister Abdellatif Filali has described Egyptian-Moroccan relations as fraternal and solid. He stressed that they are based on mutual respect and constant consultations with regard to Arab and non-Arab issues. He asserted that the understanding and the strong brotherly and personal relations between Morocco's King Hassan II and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak help to develop and to boost all aspects of fraternal ties between Cairo and Rabat.

In an interview with the *Al-Jumhuriyah* newspaper, published today, the Moroccan foreign affairs minister said that the mediation undertaken by Saudi King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz between King Hassan and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid had opened up new avenues for future Moroccan-Algerian relations. He expressed the hope that it would be the beginning of a

fraternal and constructive dialogue for finding a solution to the problems between the two countries.

Regarding the Sahara problem, Abdellatif Filali said that the UN secretary general had introduced an initiative calling for a free plebiscite under UN supervision. Both Morocco and Algeria accepted this. He also noted that proposals to organize the voting process are being prepared by the UN secretary general. He will convey them to Morocco and Algeria this month.

Abdellatif Filali expressed his country's sorrow over the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war. He regretted that Syria and Libya support Iran against Iraq. He called for full Arab solidarity with Iraq, which has accepted all the international conditions for resolving this problem.

Regarding King Hassan's call for setting up a tripartite parliament consisting of all political parties from the Arab Maghreb — Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia — he stated: Nothing has been done yet. In this context, he called on the three countries to work to make this idea a reality and unite the great Arab Maghreb.

PLO's Qaddumi Seeks Saudi Help With Camps Siege
JN181809 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, sent an urgent message to His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister. The message dealt with the continuing siege of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, especially those in Beirut. It also touched on the obstacles and difficulties placed in the way of international organizations, such as UNRWA, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the Palestinian Red Crescent, which seek to aid the Palestinian camp residents. The message also referred to the ban which prohibits the residents of these camps from rebuilding their demolished houses.

The Palestinian News Agency, WAFA, has learned that Brother Abu al-Lutf requested that His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal ask all brothers who can make a serious contribution to work out a final and complete lifting of the blockade imposed on the camps and their residents.

This request was made at the department's premises when Brother Abu al-Lutf received Brother Ibrahim al-Sa'd Ibrahim, ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Tunisia. Their talks dealt with the latest developments in the Palestinian question, as well as PLO-Arab relations.

For his part, the Saudi ambassador reiterated his fraternal country's firm and constant support for our Palestinian people's issue and their inalienable rights. He also reaffirmed his country's support for the PLO in its legitimate struggle to achieve these rights.

The meeting was attended by Brother Abu Ja'far, director general of the PLO Political Department.

PLO Executive Committee Concludes Baghdad Meeting
JN181901 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1809 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Under the chairmanship of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], the PLO Executive Committee this morning concluded the session it had begun on 16 June in Baghdad. The meeting was called to discuss the latest developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas. During its meeting, the Executive Committee discussed the abrogation of the Cairo agreement concluded between the PLO and the Lebanese Government in 1969, as well as the aspects of its abrogation by the Lebanese Government. The committee also reviewed the situation within the occupied homeland and the acts of repression perpetrated by the occupation authorities and their terrorist gangs against our people there. Another topic of discussion focused on the situation in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon in light of the continued supply and military siege imposed on them.

The Executive Committee also discussed the PLO's relations with certain Arab countries, the current Arab situation, and the present contacts being made to bolster Arab solidarity. Furthermore, it reviewed the mission of the Palestinian delegation which will visit Moscow on Sunday under Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department.

SAARC Foreign Ministers' Meeting Continues**Regional Cooperation Reviewed**

*BK181637 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] The foreign ministers of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) have approved India's proposal for setting up a South Asian food security reserve. It will have a stock of 200,000 tons of food grains of which India's contribution will be 150,000 tons. This was disclosed by a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi today.

Briefing newsmen, he said the SAARC foreign ministers meeting, which began in New Delhi today, also approved a proposal for setting up a broadcasting program for South Asia audio-visual exchange.

Another area of agreement was on the setting up of a regional documentation center with focal points in each member country and the institution of SAARC chairs in universities.

During the meeting, the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, stressed the need for a common stand on global economic issues at UNCTAD and other forums. He suggested that a SAARC ministerial meeting be held in September for that purpose. Mr Tiwari reminded the meeting that the association's charter envisages the widening of areas of agreement despite bilateral differences, but the resolution of such differences will greatly contribute to promoting regional cooperation and India has made constant efforts in this direction.

The Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, called upon the SAARC countries to resolve their differences through peaceful means. He said his country favors an agreement or a treaty to pursue peaceful nuclear programs.

The Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr Hameed, strongly pleaded that bilateral issues be discussed in the meeting. He wanted the association to discuss issues like cross-border terrorism, cross-border ethnic and religious affinity, and foreign policies.

The Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, asked the SAARC countries not to lose sight of the charter which provides for strict adherence to the principles of national independence and noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries.

The Maldives foreign minister, Mr Fathulla Jameel, said coordinated and concerted action at the regional and international level is required to tackle the problem of terrorism.

The Bhutanese foreign minister, Mr Dawa Tsering, proposed the setting up of a SAARC news agency to improve the coverage and quality of regional news.

The Nepalese foreign minister, Mr Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya, said his country is willing to cooperate with the member countries for evolving a regional legal instrument against terrorism.

Yaqub Khan on Nuclear-Free Zone

*BK181136 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Pakistan has called upon the SAARC countries to evolve a regional dispensation with a solemn agreement to keep the region free of nuclear weapons. Addressing the SAARC ministerial meeting in New Delhi today, the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, said Pakistan was ready to join in any such regional arrangements. He asked the SAARC countries to demonstrate that bilateral differences among them would not stand in the way of building a purposeful cooperation and that these differences will be resolved through peaceful means.

Yaqub Khan, Tiwari Discuss Ties

*BK181644 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] The foreign minister of Pakistan, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said that his country welcomes the Indian proposal to convene a meeting of the India-Pakistan subcommission on trade and economic cooperation. The meeting is scheduled for July or early August this year in New Delhi.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan had an hour long meeting with the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, in the capital this evening. Briefing newsmen, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said the two leaders had wide-ranging discussions on several issues of bilateral interest. They were assisted by their foreign secretaries, Mr K.P.S. Menon and Mr Abdus Sattar.

Hameed on Territorial Integrity

*BK181334 Hong Kong AFP in English
1317 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] New Delhi, June 18 (AFP) — Sri Lanka suggested Thursday that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) adopt a convention binding its seven member-nations to respect one another's independence and sovereignty. "A convention of this nature is the crying need of the hour," Sri Lankan Foreign Minister A.C.S. Hameed told SAARC colleagues at a two-day meeting which began here Thursday.

The Sri Lankan proposal came in the wake of India's June 4 air-drop of unsolicited relief supplies over the northern Jaffna Peninsula which embittered bilateral relations. Colombo had termed it a "naked violation" of its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and threatened to boycott the SAARC meeting in protest. It reconsidered the threat later.

Mr Hameed quoted past speeches by SAARC leaders referring to the need for respect for one another's territorial integrity to remove traditional mistrust and tensions between SAARC members. He added: "These noble expressions should be embodied in a regional convention — a convention that will bind us together by a solemn declaration to respect one another's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity by refraining from any acts of aggression, interference, violation or oppression."

Mr Hameed also suggested that discussions on bilateral disputes be allowed to SAARC, which groups Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

SAARC bans members from raising bilateral conflicts, but Mr Hameed said making such a rule "sacrosanct, in the long run, could spell disaster."

"When conflicts confront us do we turn a blind eye?" he asked. "It could be argued that if we do not discuss issues and problems among us, then how do we strengthen our forum — surely are we not driving them to other fora?"

Mr Hameed added: "If we brush issues under the carpet because they are unpalatable, we will be taking the first step in crippling SAARC. I believe solutions to problems have to be found from within."

Sri Lanka had written to the United Nations protesting the Indian air-drop of relief supplies to minority Tamils on the Jaffna Peninsula and New Delhi had accused Colombo of trying to internationalise the issue.

There was no immediate reaction from SAARC members to the proposal for a regional convention respecting one another's territorial integrity.

Joint Action on Terrorism

*BK191009 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] The foreign ministers of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation [SAARC] have agreed on joint action to fight terrorism. They have decided to refer their decisions on joint action to legal experts to prepare a draft convention. This will be considered at the next meeting of the foreign ministers to be held at Kathmandu in November before the SAARC summit.

The 2-day meeting of the SAARC Council of Ministers concluded in New Delhi today. They agreed on joint action after considering in detail the report of the expert group on terrorism. The member countries have been requested to enact laws to give effect to the offenses identified for the purpose of extradition. India need not enact any new legislation since it already has laws for this purpose.

The ministerial meeting also gave its approval on various matters of institutional importance to SAARC. One of them relates to the establishment of a South Asian food security reserve. Several decisions have been taken which will expand regional cooperation to areas involving people-to-people contact. Our correspondent says that India has always taken a consistent stand that bilateral and contentious issues cannot be raised at the SAARC forum. Such a thing will go against the SAARC charter.

Official Talks With Libyan Ministers Continue

Al-Talhi Meets With Ibrahimi

LD182140 Tripoli JANA in English 1840 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Algiers, Al Sayf [June] 18, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau met this morning in the Algerian capital Dr. Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi the member of the Political Bureau of the Algerian National Liberation Front's party and the minister of foreign affairs.

Jallud, Messaadia Speak

LD182010 Tripoli JANA in English 1745 GMT 18 Jun 87

[All quotation marks as received]

[Excerpts] Algiers, Al-Sayf [June] 18, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The Libyan-Algerian unionist talks were concluded in Algiers yesterday.

They were attended by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Mr. M.C. Messaadia, Politburo member and head of the Secretariat of the Algerian Front of National Liberation (FLN).

Present at this meeting were the delegation of the General People's Congress, the secretary and members of the General People's Committee, a number of the members of the Revolutionary Committees' movement, the secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Algiers and a number of experts and specialists from among various secretariats.

Also present were the first minister and members of the Algerian Government, a number of the members of the permanent secretariat of the party of FLN, a number of officials and specialists in the party and government and the Algerian ambassador to Great Al-Jamahiriyah. [passage omitted]

Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud delivered a speech following the reading of the statement in the concluding session.

He said that one is unable to express one's happiness felt here by us all this time. It is a historic moment we have lived to achieve for long years.

He adds that it is easier to formulate documents and other kinds of literature to express the aspirations of peoples. What counts is the translation of this literature into action. Allah the most eminent associates work with faith. It is not enough to believe in unity. Nor is it enough to believe in socialism. We should practise socialism.

He points out that if we look around we see a pan-Arab ebbing in the eastern and western parts of the Arab homeland, but we find the immortal great revolution with the fire of which we have been educated being capable of putting forward the solution to the masses of our whole nation.

Carrying out this project, he adds, means that we have proved

our credibility and embodied the struggle of our nation with that of its martyrs.

He stresses that unity being a revolution, resembles the revolution of Arabisation. Without the latter the national revolution will be endangered, for it is easier to wreck a nation through wrecking its cultural character.

Addressing the Algerians, he says that they have proved that we have been right in our evaluation of the Algerian revolution with which we have aspired to achieve unity since the early hours of the revolution.

Such a project, he continues, is a historic achievement. It is certain that our Arab masses regard it as representing a beginning of a pan-Arab resurgence.

He stresses that revolutionaries don't watch the movement of history. Rather, he stresses, they make history.

He points out that the Arab Maghreb and the Arab nation need this historic action.

After the getting-together of the revolutionary will in Algeria and Libya our attempts will be of value.

We know that in physics that the weak points are attracted to the strong ones.

The presence of the project we have prepared which will be a property of the masses will create a force of attraction. We will not permit any excuse to our attempts with Morocco, Tunisia and Mauritania. This is neither an axis forming nor a closed action.

We have gone as far as going beyond what we believe in because we have not made it conditional to have a correspondence in the political organization. This is a very important step.

Staff Major 'Abd al-Salim Ahmad Jallud went on to say: "So we live, in fact, these historic moments. We still have a huge task ahead of us which needs sweat, and we may say it needs blood to cling to this gain in case it was endorsed by the masses".

He indicated that there will be enemies of this historic deed both inside and abroad. "Because unfortunately for the Arab nation, we did not put our national unity in the era of nationalist doctrine, for the social revolution has created for itself enemies within, which forces us to merge the social revolution with the nationalist revolution. For this deed will have enemies within as it being a historic act of transformation. This is contrary to if we were able to realise our national unity in the nationalist doctrine era in which all Arabs, Algerians and Libyans were equals". [sentence as received] He pointed out to the split in the unity of 'Abd al-Nasir's Egypt and Syria due to the big role the Arabs reaction played together with the 5-sided company [the reaction against the five directors — Egypt and four Western powers — of the Suez Canal company], feudalism, monopolies and the West which combined efforts had ended it. This is apart from it being on the surface. Here was no merger of interests. Instead there was a merger of theory to a degree that there were some festivities in some Arab countries celebrating the split.

He added: "In fact we need sweat, mobilising of masses, of cadres... I do not find the expression of the responsibility this historic work had put upon us except what Brother "Mohamed Cherif Messaadia", as a freedom-fighter, said that such a union will never end. [It is] we who will end. I believe that we in Algeria and the Jamahiriya own our will and resolution. We have the apt awareness, and with the same will that we have completed this project, after the masses will endorse it, we will be able with our masses struggle to preserve this historic gain. I say this unionist work is not only in the interest of Algeria and Libya alone, but it is in the interest of Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Sahara, Mauritania, Palestine and the Palestine people in the camps. It is for the benefit of all".

He said: "All of us members of the delegations, revolutionary committees, General People's Committees and economic cadres appreciate this work, because we proposed unity with the Arabs. But we always used to see that the true unity and union is with Algeria. We consider you sacred revolutionaries, for in fact there are subjective reasons more than emotional which make us highly regard away from emotion.

He added: "This work will make the enemies nervous. In the end, we must raise the degree of our readiness inside, in Libya, in Algeria, in the Arab world, in Africa and in America and create the way in which we can transform this project to a reality and link the masses' interests, change the mentality and make the prospects of the Arab nation's progress until this year 2,000".

Staff Major 'Abd Al-Salim Ahmad Jallud asserted the need to realise Arab unity regardless of the selfish elements "because whoever lives free under unity, even under a tree and eats bread and water only, will be dignified and better than who is living in a palace and his land is defiled by Zionism and the U.S. Our religion and our identity are jeopardised".

He said: "We are extremely happy. We pledge to all freedom-fighters of the Algerian revolution and its leadership and people, that we shall be the faithful guardians and the unknown soldiers for entrenching and consolidating this union. Our lives will be sacrificed for it. We shall never let down our messes in Libya, in Algeria, in the Arab Maghreb and our nation. The Palestine people in the occupied land and in the camps will feel the flicker of hope, because this is a great thing that goes beyond Algeria and Libya and the Arab Maghreb". He added: "The moment of work has just started now. It is not enough that we endorse this union and set its institutions. It requires from us following up, sweat and suffering. We shall change from the smallest jihad, which is the endorsement of the union, to the greatest jihad, which is the transformation of such a project into an action, which is most important".

Concluding his speech he said: "We thank you once more and greet in you this solid will and this historic stance. We salute the revolutionary leadership in Algeria under brother President Chadli Bendjedid. We shall go back to our second country Libya filled with happiness and joy and carrying the good news".

Mohamed Cherif Messaadia then gave a speech in which he said: "The will of the freedom-fighters has overcome all difficulties, thanks to the revolutionary leaderships in both Libya and

Algeria under the two men who had reached a degree of revolutionary awareness and nationalist awareness that enabled them both to nominate themselves to be on the level of history and the level of the historic stage according to what the Arab nation's masses and all the lively forces of this world are waiting for. The world of struggle, the world which experiences strong conflicts which price paid in the first place by the weak — and we belong to such world which is materially weak but morally strong in its beliefs". [sentence as received]

He added: "This meeting did not come as a coincidence, it came as a result of all these realities and guidelines". Mohamed Cherif Messaadia announced that since more than a year ago, a Libyan-Algerian working group had been set up to work on preparing a unity document...contacts always made, one time in Libya, another time in Algeria during which expanding and deepening of dialogue was made on every point. He said: "We can say we have proven to ourselves and to our brothers in the Arab Mashriq and Arab Maghreb, proven to all progress and prosperity-loving forces, proven even to our enemies that we are capable to take responsible firm steps, for the protocol project is a responsible one. Every word in it is responsible, balanced and checked because they protect this project and guarantee its victory on the one hand and provide the evidence and proof to brothers and friends alike that this deed is a serious work. And as brother Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud has said it is not in the interest of Libya and Algeria alone, but it is for the benefit of the Arab Maghreb forces and the Arab nation too and in the end to all the forces in Africa and outside Africa and all progress and prosperity-loving forces."

Mohamed Cherif Messaadia said that this project aims at creating a new and renewing thing for the nationalist and patriotic work. It unites two countries driven by the same hopes of liberating man after liberating the land. Liberate man economically, socially and culturally. Driven by hopes of contributing in the building of their nation, its renaissance and its liberation from the setbacks it suffered in certain historic stages. Ambition reminds always of our historic responsibility towards our nation and others. So, this is not a commercial project or a treaty between two states joined by material interests, it is also a unionist project highly above all that, for it has opened new prospects for serious work, and fruitful work for the benefit of our region and our nation".

He added: "I previously said that every word in this project is a responsible one. I had taken into consideration the reality and we have built every word in it on the living and felt reality. As in the speech of Brother Jallud, for each Arab Maghreb country must join this union regardless of its social and economic regime. If this is done in the Arab Maghreb it is not kept in a shell and closed upon itself, the door remains open to any country of Arab Mashriq to become a member of this union on a condition it adopt what was laid as foundations and general principles of the union and regardless of the social, economic and cultural regimes in each country because we took into consideration that specific historic circumstances have made all Arab countries arrive at their political independence in various diverse ways — also they have developed within various different conditions. For this it is not conditional in the first stages that there is harmony in the social structures. We left it free for the people's will in those

countries to choose their economic and social regimes. We even made a pledge not to intervene in the others' affairs, to solve all our problems as best as we can by dialogue and discussion without the use of violence or force but by respecting the will of those peoples so that they themselves come to this union or unite generally. They must voluntarily come to it satisfied and in belief. We may vanish, but such huge historic projects are guaranteed to stay and stabilise".

He said: "No doubt you all will look into this document one of those days when it is been approved by the two revolution's leaderships in both countries and discussed by the freedom-fighters and citizens, then you will see for yourselves what ideas, principles, starting points and rigid goals they express and interpret better than what I have desired to summarise in this speech".

Concluding his speech, Mohamed Cherif Messaadia said: "I would like to thank the brother Libyans once again for this visit and the effort they had exerted or we all exerted so that this humble work in its appearance and great in its essence. [sentence as received] Our confidence is great in our freedom-fighter brothers in Jamahiriyah and Algeria, our confidence is great in our masses that this work will satisfy their desires and ambitions in building this union and in marching on the road of liberation and prosperity.

Further on Cooperation Accords

LD181453 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0905 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text]Algiers, 18 Jun (JANA)— The minutes of the third session of the Libyan-Algerian Arab Joint Executive Committee were signed in Algiers yesterday.

The signatories were the brother secretary of the General People's Committee and Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi for the fraternal Algerian Arab side.

The signing ceremony was attended by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salim Ahmad Jallud and brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, head of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat.

The ceremony was also attended by members of the two delegations.

The minutes of the cooperation agreement adopted a number of decisions to develop and expand existing cooperation between the two countries. This will be done by establishing a number of industrial and construction ventures.

Two agreements for establishing a joint Libyan-Algerian Arab geophysics organization and a joint oil exploration company were also signed.

It was agreed to make joint investments in chemical and petrochemical industries, to establish a joint aluminum industrial company, and four joint companies for producing buses, diesel engines, all-terrain vehicles, and gear boxes. It was also agreed to cooperate in the iron-ore, steel, electronic industries, and

industrial research sectors. An agreement to establish a water-well drilling company and a joint construction company was signed.

In the commercial field, it was agreed to increase trade and to give priority to importing and exporting goods produced in the two countries. It was also agreed to consolidate and develop cooperation in the transport and communications fields, and to develop air, road, and sea transport between the two countries.

The two countries additionally signed an accord on the exchange of information and to intensify cooperation in this field between both nations' institutions.

It was also decided to sign a cultural agreement before the end of 1987. A program in the education, scientific research, youth, sports, tourism, and vocational training fields was also agreed upon.

The Executive Committee devoted particular attention to the labor sector and to consolidating ties between workers, vocational unions, and syndicates. The Executive Committee also studied the organization of the technical work force movement, as well as developing the necessary human resources to implement different programs.

In the health-care field, it was decided to benefit from the two countries' medical and technical expertise.

A follow-up committee at the secretarial and ministerial level was additionally established. It will monitor the Executive Committee's agreements, decisions, and recommendations and work to develop cooperative relations between the two fraternal countries.

Jallud, Delegation Depart

NC182050 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text]Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and his accompanying delegation concluded a working and unionist visit to fraternal Algeria and then returned to Tripoli at noon today.

Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud and his delegation received a big farewell at Houari Boumedienne Airport, where Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Algerian FLN Political Bureau member and head of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, led the send-off party. Also bidding Maj Jallud farewell were the [Algerian] prime minister, cabinet members, a number of FLN Permanent Secretariat members, several FLN members and other officials, and the Algerian ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to newsmen at Houari Boumedienne Airport prior to his departure, Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud praised the unionist steps that had crowned the dialogue between the brothers in the Great Jamahiriyah and Algeria. He said: "This accomplishment, which many have struggled for, is a noble and historical goal and is desired both in the Arab Meghreb and by the masses of our Arab nation.

Strugglers in the Arab Maghreb have fought against colonialism and achieved national revolution and independence, crowned by unity between the Maghreb and Arab nations. Unity, he added, provides current and future generations with a shield. Unity is progress, pride, and advancement. This achievement is beyond description. All our nation's strugglers and masses in the Arab Maghreb will welcome this historical step.

Jallud continued: I salute the firm will exhibited in both Algeria and Libya which has risen to the level of events, masses, and goals, and accomplished this feat. When we discuss Arab unity, the great 1 September and November Revolutions serve as the unity structure's cornerstone. We have great hope for the immortal and glorious November Revolution, and in the strugglers led by the Algerian revolution, Brother Chadli Benjedid — the Algerian president and FLN secretary general — and the strugglers of the Algerian FLN. We always have believed that this revolution, which is part of the Arab nation's struggle, will reach the level of our Arab nation's hopes and aspirations.

Jallud continued: Our Arab people in Algeria and the FLN's strugglers and cadres today proved they deserve our confidence and the hopes we attach to them. This event represents a pan-Arab and Arab Maghreb renaissance. This unity is open to all Arab Maghreb countries since, in my view, it was not achieved by Libya's and Algeria's Arab people alone but by all Arab Maghreb strugglers and all martyrs who fell defending freedom and independence. It is the masses of the Arab Maghreb and the entire Arab nation who created this great work. We congratulate ourselves, the Arab Maghreb masses, and the Arab nation. We also salute our brothers in Algeria and the Arab masses in Libya and Algeria.

In his news statement on this immortal event in our Arab nation's history, Staff Maj Jallud said: This event will make history due to the circumstances our Arab nation and the Arab Maghreb are passing through. The revolutions in the Great Jamahiriya and Algeria have been equal to the two countries' historical responsibilities and to events. Both Libya and Algeria have accomplished this historic mission.

Maj Jallud appealed to all strugglers and Algeria's masses to contribute intellectually to promoting and strengthening this plan so they can both realize it and defend it against enemies. This plan will provoke forces hostile to our nation because it boosts our masses' morale and gives them hope for the future. Therefore, I address this call to all strugglers, whether of the November Revolution or of the generation that led subsequent liberation revolutions, or to the youths contributing to the social revolution.

The November Revolution has managed to act as a link between the liberating and social revolutions due to these individuals. This has been a feature which distinguished the Algerian revolution from other revolutions. Maj Jallud stated that words alone cannot describe this accomplishment, a major feat that stirs the conscience of all of us and opens new horizons for our nation's masses. It is important to transform every clause and word of this Algerian-Great Jamahiriya accord into reality, especially due to the doubts cast upon Arab unity by Western, regional, and renegade propaganda seeking to harm anything unionist or nationalist. This unionist plan, he added, will be the correct answer to apostasy and threats. When it erupted, the November Revolution stirred national awareness in the Arab nation's contemporary history. Similarly, the great 1 September and the November Revolutions are today triggering a nationalist and unionist revolution.

Maj Jallud finished by stating: We lived among our brothers' spirit of friendship on this visit and we worked as one team, since we all belong to one culture and share the same concerns and aspirations. Therefore, a similarity has been noted in the analysis, suffering, and work we experienced. Through a solid and inspirational will, we were able to accomplish this historic plan heralding hope at a time when the Arab nation is experiencing real crisis and faces conspiracies both domestically and from abroad. This plan is a timely response by the Arab peoples in the Great Jamahiriya and Algeria, who are qualified for such a historical response, to the forces of defeat and retreat and the renegade and regional powers.

President Habre Leaves for Ivory Coast, U.S.
AB171501 Ndjamenat Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The head of state, President Hissein Habre, is to visit the United States. According to a news release issued by the presidency, the Chadian head of state will pay a (?friendly) working visit to the United States from 18 through 23 June at the invitation of President Ronald Reagan. The head of state left Ndjamenat at 0645 today. [passage indistinct]

Before his trip to Washington, the head of state will pay another friendly and working visit to Ivory Coast. He is due to arrive in Yamoussoukro today for talks with Ivorian President Houphouet-Boigny. [passage indistinct]

President Hissein Habre will leave Yamoussoukro tomorrow, 18 June, for the United States.

U.S. Visit's Significance Seen
AB181626 Ndjamenat Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] President Hissein Habre's official visit to Washington, due to begin today, is of great importance. It comes just a few months after the last fighting north of the 16th parallel between Chadian and Libyan forces. The trip comes as no surprise to any observer, despite the fact that it will be Hissein Habre's first official visit to the United States since he assumed power in Chad.

Talks between Reagan and Habre will essentially focus on bilateral relations. The two leaders will discuss economic problems since Chad, which has been destroyed by several years of war, expects much from the United States in its efforts to revive its economy. Ronald Reagan and Hissein Habre will also examine today's major issues, with emphasis on the situation in South Africa and Namibia. [passage omitted]

Beyond the many contacts he will make during his trip, what is the true significance of Habre's first visit to the United States? The United States does not maintain relations with just anyone. It is sufficient to examine the list of Washington's friends to

realize this. The White House is very aware of our country's importance. Since Habre assumed power in Chad on 7 June 1982, U.S. officials have displayed a growing interest in everything concerning Chad. The United States was among the first nations to open an embassy in our capital. The two countries have exchanged many cooperation missions; Habre has sent emissaries to Washington while Ronald Reagan has sent envoys to Ndjamenat.

The increase in relations between the United States and Chad stems from the two governments' desire to derive maximum benefit from their cooperation. But Washington's special interest in our country was prompted by the evident determination of Hissein Habre's government to rebuild this war-torn nation. The Chadian Government's efforts in this area have won over the White House.

There is no doubt that the president's visit to the United States will contribute both to enhancing our nation's credibility among American politicians and encouraging U.S. investment in Chad. This could then lead to greater participation by the U.S. private sector in Chad. This trip will allow for an examination of the possibilities for U.S. business involvement in our country. In fact, it must be noted that at present, U.S. private investment in Chad is very limited or even nonexistent.

On the political front, the two countries are expected to use President Habre's upcoming visit to the United States to conclude beneficial cooperation agreements. Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou's presence in the delegation is significant here.

In the economic sector, the two delegations are likely to open negotiations for greater American aid, provided thus far through the U.S. Agency for International Development. This assistance must enhance our policy of development especially directed toward [words indistinct], public health, education, human resources, and rural development in particular. Trade accords may also be signed and a joint commission created.

Meanwhile, there are no disputes between the United States and Chad; as UN members, both countries call for international peace and freedom, as well as balanced development for all nations. Following El Hadj Hissein Habre's trip to Washington, cooperation between the United States and Chad should be given a new impetus by the two delegations' expected agreements.

Interior Minister on 'Recent Terrorist Incidents'*NC181350 Cairo MENA in English 1300 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Alexandria, June 18 (MENA) — Interior Minister Zaki Badr said today recent terrorist incidents were meant to shake stability in Egypt "but any attempt to undermine order and security will be firmly dealt with."

The minister was addressing security senior officials here today.

Any violation of law and security will not be tolerated, the minister stressed.

The minister conveyed to the meeting the greeting of President Mubarak and said that all the people were for the prevalence of legality and law and order.

Ghali, Norwegian Defense Minister Hold Talks*NC181545 Cairo MENA in English 1500 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Cairo, June 18 (MENA) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali reiterated today Egypt's stance calling for securing the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and reaching a political solution to the Palestinian issue as being the core and crux of the Middle East problem.

This came in a lengthy meeting Dr. Ghali held with Norwegian Minister of Defence Johan Jorgen Holst and the accompanying delegation currently visiting Cairo.

The meeting also dealt with all Middle East developments, while Dr. Ghali reviewed the Egyptian diplomacy's efforts over the past ten years for achieving peace and stability in the area, pointing at the same time to the importance of the European role in encouraging the moderate parties in the Middle [words indistinct].

Finance Minister Outlines New State Budget*JN131127 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 9 Jun 87 p 6*

[By Mahmud Mu'awwad, Sharif al-'Abd, and 'Abd al-Jawad 'Ali]

[Text] Finance Minister Dr Muhammad al-Razzaz outlined the main features of the new state budget at the People's Assembly yesterday. He said the budget will meet the requirements of the Armed Forces, public debt obligations, the wages of state employees, and will seek to increase state revenues.

He said the new budget will be financed from 22.4 billion pounds, 78.5 percent from national revenues and 18.5 percent from savings and loans, and that 4.6 billion pounds will be earmarked for the wages of state employees, an increase of 18.7 percent compared to last year's budget.

The finance minister affirmed that subsidies will be maintained by distributing them to those in the low-income bracket.

The finance minister's statement on the state budget for fiscal year 1987-1988 contains appropriations for the wages of those working in the administrative sector, local government, and services. Aggregate appropriations for these sectors total 4,589.2 million pounds compared to 3,865 million pounds in the 1986-1987 budget, that is, an increase of 724.2 million pounds or 18.7 percent. This wage appropriation increase will cover periodic increments for government employees totaling 121.8 million pounds, in addition to 11.8 million pounds for bonuses.

The finance minister said the government is preparing a study to strike a balance between wages and prices to improve the conditions of the working class and pensioners. This will take place by linking wages to production. He added that the budget contains aggregate expenditures of 23,058.9 million pounds with 13,745.3 million pounds, or 59.6 percent, for current expenditures, 5,800 million pounds, or 25.2 percent, for investment expenditures, and 3,513.6 million pounds, or 15.2 percent, for capital investments. He said these expenditures will be financed from national revenues totaling 11,019.9 million pounds, or 47.7 percent, of the aggregate expenditures, from current revenues and self-created financing with an aggregate value of 7,098.3 million pounds, or 30.8 percent of the aggregate expenditures, from local savings totaling 3,034.1 million pounds or 13.2 percent, and from foreign loans and credits totaling 1,226.6 million pounds, or 5.3 percent, of the aggregate expenditures.

The finance minister said the aggregate financing for expenditures in the budget is 22,378.9 million pounds or 97 percent, and that the rest of the financing, which totals 680 million pounds, will be supplied by the banks. This sum constitutes 3 percent of the aggregate expenditures and represents the net deficit in the budget.

The minister said current revenues in the budget total 15,022.2 million pounds with a current surplus of 1,276.9 million pounds. Investment revenues are 1,719.3 million pounds with a deficit of 4,080.7 million pounds. He added that this deficit is counterbalanced by local savings of 3,034.1 million pounds and by credits and loans of 1,046.6 million pounds. Therefore, the financing of investments did not result in any net deficit.

Capital investments total 3,516.6 million pounds while available revenues for financing them have reached 1,376.7 million pounds and foreign loans 180 million pounds. The current surplus, totaling 1,276.9 million pounds, covers part of the capital investments deficit, leaving a 680-million-pound net deficit in the budget.

The finance minister stressed that one of the main objectives of the state budget is to emphasize the social aspect by maintaining subsidies and guaranteeing their receipt by beneficiaries. He said 1,650 million pounds have been earmarked for subsidies, health services, and the enhancement of social security, and for educational services, research, youth affairs, and religious services.

The minister said the government's financial policy is to provide the necessary appropriations to pay the interest on and the installments of the local and foreign public debt that are due in fiscal year 1987-1988 in order to strengthen confidence in our financial and economic status. The budget contains 1,192.2

million pounds to pay the interest on the local public debt and 727.3 million pounds to pay the interest on the foreign public debt, this is, aggregate interest of 2,689.5 million pounds.

With respect to controlling government expenditures, the financial policy seeks to achieve the following objectives, among others:

1. Asking all officials in the various government departments to carry out a study on how to distribute public services at the smallest cost without impairing their standards to reduce public expenditures.
2. Tightening control over appropriations earmarked for public services and limiting them to the objectives that are within the prerogatives of all government departments.
3. Limit the trips abroad by Egyptian delegations to basic tasks and the number of officials who are members of these delegations, including delegations headed by ministers.
4. Abiding by the rates put forth for gasoline consumption in government cars.
5. Economizing on the use of stationery, banning the installation of new telephones, and restricting government telephones to official use.
6. Saving on water and electricity and banning excesses in the appropriations earmarked in the budget for this purpose and pinpointing the responsibility of those departments that register any excesses.
7. Honoring the appropriations listed in the budget, including payment for any equipment whose original cost increases as a result of a change in the exchange rate.
8. The finance minister concluded by saying the financial policy gives priority to local products and seeks to decrease dependence on imports for hard currency considerations.

Economy Minister Explains Exchange Reform

PM161137 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
10-16 Jun 87 pp 31, 32

[Interview with Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Yusri Mustafa by Muhammad Khalifah in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts][Khalifah] How would you assess the market operation after the reorganization decision?

[Mustafa] There are signs that inspire optimism, and these are increasing day by day. In particular, remittances [from Egyptians abroad] are cause for optimism, although these have yet to reach the volume hoped for, because the season when Egyptians return from abroad has only just begun.

[Khalifah] But the Egyptians abroad are far from the new developments and, therefore, have not received this information.

[Mustafa] That is true. Many of them still have not received enough information about the new system. The bank exchange rates are similar to the market exchange rates; in fact, banks will play a role here.

[Khalifah] If you mean that this can be done through increasing visits by bank delegations, many Egyptians abroad are not in touch with them.

[Mustafa] I do not mean delegations only but indeed the activities of banks, and correspondents, and banks in other countries, as well as the representatives of banks. This also means the banks will play an important role in serving their clients here, as well as providing good banking service. I am confident the banking system is capable of playing its role.

[Khalifah] Speaking of remittances, are these sufficient, as reported?

[Mustafa] Suffice it to say remittances are more than we expected and so far they exceed the volume of credits requested.

[Khalifah] Has this not affected bank reserves?

[Mustafa] I confirm that the demand for credit has not exceeded the banks' stock of foreign currency or reserves; in fact the reserve is still untouched; indeed, it has been strengthened by additional resources which have been flowing into the banking system.

[Khalifah] Is that because the Central Bank has given strict instructions to shut off the credit tap?

[Mustafa] The banking services as a whole provide a surplus of foreign currency. But if you consider these as separate banking units, you may find credits exceed the resources of one bank while you find a surplus of foreign currency at another. That is why the system has provided for freedom to sell and buy foreign currency among banks. In reply to your question, suffice it to say the Central Bank has informed banks of its readiness to supply them with the foreign currency required for credit purposes and to meet all the requirements of any bank that suffers a deficit. You may call this operation a kind of free passage among banks. It is also untrue that instructions have been issued to banks regarding credit priorities or restrictions.

[Khalifah] Does this include all credit and requests for imports?

[Mustafa] Yes, all credit and import requests except those concerning commodities prohibited to start with. [passage omitted]

[Khalifah] Can it be said that exchange rates have now been unified?

[Mustafa] We declared from the very beginning that the free market in banking sought to unify the exchange rate in banks approved by the market. As for the second stage, that is designed to gradually unify the exchange rate between the free banking market itself and the Central Bank. [passage omitted]

[Khalifah] When will the complete floating of the Egyptian pound be achieved?

[Mustafa] At this present stage we are seeking to create an internal balance between supply and demand so as to be able to float the pound abroad, so there is a demand for the Egyptian pound worldwide.

[Khalifah] Some reports indicate there are huge deposits and funds held for Egyptians abroad, especially those who have emigrated temporarily. What is the role of the new system in dealing with these funds?

[Mustafa] Yes, a huge amount of capital is invested abroad, as you have said, but we are working toward attracting it to invest in Egypt. Egyptians abroad are in turn waiting for this opportunity, namely a free market and open dealing.

Minister Tours Oil, Gas Fields in Western Desert

NC181507 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic

1400 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, today inspected the site of the largest and most recent natural gas find in the western desert, whose average estimated output of 33.1 million cubic feet [time frame not specified] is one of the highest production rates in Egypt. The field will also yield 2,511 barrels per day of various petroleum products. During the tour, the petroleum minister inaugurated a crude oil production station, the estimated daily output of which is 10,000 barrels per day. That figure will rise to 14,000 barrels by the end of the year.

Foreign Ministry Official Returns From North Korea

NC181018 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0938 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 18 Jun (MENA) — Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador 'Abd al-Hadi Makhluuf returned to Cairo from Pyongyang this morning at the end of a 2-week visit to North Korea. During his stay, he attended the meetings of the extraordinary ministerial conference of the nonaligned countries for South-South economic cooperation. [passage omitted]

Government Releases Nine Spanish Fishing Boats

*LD101047 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish
0800 GMT 10 Jun 87*

[Text] The Mauritanian Government has ordered the release of nine Spanish fishing boats from Lanzarote. The vessels were seized by Mauritanian patrol boats.

The release took place after negotiations between the Spanish Foreign Ministry and the authorities in Nouakchott. Eligio Hernandez, the [Spanish] government delegate in the Canary Islands, also intervened. The crews of the fishing boats were fined 32 million pesetas.

Two Algerian Delegations Arrive for Talks

*AB101724 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French
0730 GMT 10 Jun 87*

[Text] Two Algerian delegations arrived in Nouakchott yesterday. The first is led by the deputy minister of fisheries. Its visit is part of the friendly and cooperative relations between our country and Algeria, especially in the fishing sector.

The second group is headed by the permanent secretary at the Ministry of Energy, Chemical and Petrochemical Industries. He will meet with Mauritanian officials to reinforce bilateral cooperation in the chemical and agrochemical industry sectors.

Talks Conclude 15 Jun

AB161854 Dakar PANA in French 0902 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Dakar, 15 Jun (APS-ALG/PANA) — Mohamed Mazouni, Algerian vice minister of fisheries, [name and title as received] has just concluded a 3-day visit to the Islamic Republic

of Mauritania at the head of an important delegation. During his stay, he held talks with Sidi Ould Cheikh Abdellahi, the Mauritanian minister of fisheries and maritime economy.

The two delegations held a plenary session in which the two ministers outlined their goals for bilateral cooperation. They also discussed the willingness of their respective heads of state to promote exemplary and mutually beneficial cooperation.

Mohamed Mazouni was received by Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya, the Mauritanian head of state. The Mauritanian president made a point of noting Mauritania's excellent relations with Algeria and the unflinching political determination of their two heads of state to further strengthen bilateral collaboration.

President Receives Gabonese Foreign Minister

*LD182246 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya, chairman of the CMSN and head of state, met this afternoon with Martin Bongo, Gabonese minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, who is currently visiting our country.

The audience was also attended by Major Mohamed Lemine Ould N'Diayane, member of the CMSN and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, the Mauritanian ambassador to Gabon, and the Gabonese ambassador to Nouakchott. Following the meeting, the Gabonese minister told the national press he had delivered a message to the president from his brother and friend, Gabonese President El Hadj Omar Bongo. Bongo pointed out that he was satisfied with his meeting and with the atmosphere in which it took place.

PDRY

YSP General Conference Scheduled for 20 Jun
EA182144 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
 1630 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Excerpt] The YSP Central Committee has decided to convene the general party conference on 20 June in the capital, Aden. This decision was made during the ninth extraordinary session of the Central Committee held yesterday and chaired by brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee. The Central Committee confirmed all the documents to be presented to the general party conference. [passage omitted]

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Statements, Meetings, Comment on Sharjah Crisis

More Supreme Council Meetings
JN181614 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Al-'Ayn, June 18 (GNA) — The UAE Supreme Council resumed its meeting this evening at Al-Maqam Palace in Al-'Ayn.

The meeting chaired by President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan was attended by Supreme Council members and the ruler of Ra's al-Khaymah, Shaykh Saqr ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, of Umm al-Qaywayn, Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, of 'Ajman, Shaykh Humayd ibn Rashid al-Nu'aymi, of Al-Fujayrah, Shaykh Hamad ibn Muhammad al-Sharqi, and Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum, minister of finance and industry.

Supreme Council Issues Statement
JN182049 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2300 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Al-'Ayn, 18 Jun (WAKH) — The UAE Supreme Council has announced that it will continue meeting tomorrow under His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE.

The council issued a statement this evening which was cited by WAM. The statement said that at this evening's meeting the council members reviewed and discussed the issues presented for discussion. This provided the opportunity for efforts and consultations to continue until they successfully meet the interest of the homeland. This work must also observe all the considerations taken by the council members as an embodiment of the spirit of the one family. The leader of the unionist march and his brother members of the UAE Supreme Council are concerned about the preservation of this family.

New Sharjah Head Names Officials

JN190635 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
 0500 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] In the Emirate of Sharjah, new ruler Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi affirmed yesterday that he will remain in power in place of his brother, Shaykh Sultan. He announced this despite the UAE Supreme Council decision pronouncing the change that occurred in Sharjah's leadership null and void.

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz said that his family has pledged allegiance to him and there is no cause to be anxious about security in the emirate. The new ruler proclaimed a series of decrees in which he appointed approximately 21 of those close to him — most of them members of the Al-Qasimi family — to important, major posts in Sharjah.

Meanwhile, the UAE Supreme Council held a lengthy meeting in Al-'Ayn yesterday evening, but did not adopt any new stands on the situation in Sharjah. The conferees, led by President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan, agreed to hold a third meeting this evening to ensure the success of the current efforts and consultations being made to resolve the Sharjah crisis.

Shaykh Sultan, whose brother replaced him, is reportedly now in Dubai. He returned from London when he heard about the events in his emirate. In a statement to the British press yesterday, his wife said that he had not abdicated in his brother's favor and he refuses to recognize his brother's authority over the emirate.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry announced that Iran is following current developments in Sharjah closely and calls for a speedy revival of regional solidarity to prevent the occurrence of new tension in the Gulf area. The Emirate of Dubai, which had good relations with Iran, is foremost among those which oppose the change in power that has arisen in Sharjah.

Deposed Ruler Receives Notables
JN190720 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic
 0700 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Last night His Highness Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the UAE Supreme Council and ruler of Sharjah, received the notables of the emirate of Sharjah, citizens, and tribesmen. They came to his highness' residence to congratulate him on his safe return to the homeland and to renew allegiance to his highness as the legitimate ruler of the emirate of Sharjah.

The meeting between his highness the ruler of Sharjah and his citizens was attended by Shaykh Saqr ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, Shaykh Sa'ud ibn Sultan al-Qasimi, and Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sultan al-Qasimi. The meeting was also attended by Shaykh Faysal ibn Khalid ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, chief of the office of the ruler of Sharjah; Shaykh Faysal ibn Khalid ibn Sultan al-Qasimi, chief of the Sharjah Amiri Court; and senior officials of the Sharjah emirate.

AL-BAYAN Stresses 'Stability'*JN190812 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0707 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] Dubayy, 19 Jun (WAM) — *Al-Bayan* asserts that continued stability has made it possible "to achieve everything the people of the UAE enjoy and are proud of under their wise leadership. There is the most successful contemporary Arab unionist experiment" that constitutes a basic guarantee for the continuation of the march with all its bright and positive aspects.

In an editorial published today under the headline "The Importance of Stability," *Al-Bayan* says: "No incident should be allowed to shake the bases and pillars that constitute the most important guarantees of strength, stability, and security in the seven emirates of the UAE." *Al-Bayan* adds: "Any incident, whatever it may be, must be contained or overcome with the concerted efforts of all concerned. This follows the basis of a collective responsibility for protecting the march and eliminating the obstacles in its path. This is analogous to the way a body acts in maintaining the safety of all of its organs."

Al-Bayan asserts that "public interest and the unity of destiny make it necessary to preserve the bases on which our young state is founded. Our state has succeeded in becoming an example of stability and security. Without this, it would have been impossible to achieve all that we did in record time."

Al-Bayan refers to the delicate situation in the area "where our state enjoys a distinguished geographic position that increases the importance of stability. Consequently, this increases the necessity of preserving such stability. The consequences resulting from a lack of stability and security are well-known. Everyone is aware of such consequences. We are all aware of the need to preserve the main pillars of such stability. A stable situation constitutes a safety valve for any state in our contemporary world, particularly the great powers."

Qatari Paper on Sharjah Crisis*JN190845 Doha QNA in Arabic 0730 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] Doha, 19 Jun (QNA) — The Qatari paper *Al-Rayah* expresses confidence that the latest developments in Sharjah will be resolved within the framework of a single family. In this way, the UAE's unionist experience will continue to be an example to be followed by the Arabs and an effective and useful contribution to the GCC. In an editorial today, *Al-Rayah* refers to the Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani's statement emphasizing that Qatar is anxious for the UAE's stability to be preserved. His highness expressed confidence in the wisdom of UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and his brothers, the rulers of the emirate. He also praised their ability to resolve matters in a manner that safeguards the country's unity and security.

Al-Rayah also refers to the emphasis placed by the leaders of the GCC states on the UAE's continued stability. The paper mentions their confidence in the wisdom of the UAE leaders and in their farsightedness in tackling developments and restoring the situation to normal in order to strengthen the UAE's unionist march.

Concluding its editorial, *Al-Rayah* expresses the hope that the three-member committee formed by the UAE Supreme Council will succeed in containing the developments that occurred in Sharjah in a family spirit. The paper hopes that this will be accomplished with the sagacity and levelheadedness for which the UAE leaders are known. In this way, the seven emirates will continue to be united and continue to build, to work for stability, and to defend the national soil against the enemies of the Arab and Muslim nations.

Fahd, Zayid Exchange Cables*JN190931 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] Jeddah, 18 Jun (WAKH) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques and Saudi monarch, has expressed "his full confidence in the ability and wisdom of His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, to restore stability in his country, particularly in this crucial phase for all of us in the region".

In a cable to His Highness Shaykh Zayid this evening, carried by SPA, the custodian of the two holy mosques said: "As a brother who loves you and who appreciates your wisdom and foresight, I hope that you have begun efforts to unite the brothers in Sharjah and the brothers in Dubayy within the framework of amity and fraternity. Those of us here, as well as other brothers, join you in this fraternal feeling. We also share with you both worry or stability with one heart and one hand". He added: "It pleases me to receive from my dear brother a message that will reassure me about the settlement of matters among all the brothers within the framework of constant fraternity and increasing amity. May God support all of us."

The text of the cable follows: His Highness dear brother Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, may God preserve and protect him. May peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you. I wish your honorable highness continued good health. I wish the fraternal people in the UAE continued progress and prosperity under the aegis of their fraternal unity, which is being sponsored and supported by your honorable highness with your known wisdom, firm determination, and sound leadership.

We have learned of developments in Sharjah and the subsequent statements issued in Sharjah and Dubayy. These have been a cause of concern for me as a brother who shares the fortune and misfortune of his brothers. However, my concern has been lessened and even removed. I am hopeful and optimistic that stability and normality will be restored. I can feel this way because of my absolute confidence in you, your wisdom, and farsightedness. These factors are bound to manifest themselves at this critical phase we are all experiencing in the region — the scene of conflicts between foreign currents which covet our land and seek to undermine its security and stability. Therefore my hopes are pinned on you to ward off any negative repercussions in Sharjah and Dubayy. I am also counting on you to begin resolving and settling these issues as quickly as possible since delay would benefit neither the brothers nor the region. This is to prevent things from getting out of hand, when a solution would then become difficult or even impossible to work out. A resolution

of the crisis would spare us all foreign interference lurking in the shadows, as well as subsequent negative complications which we all can well do without.

My honorable brother: As a loving brother, I appreciate your wisdom and farsightedness. I hope you have done whatever is necessary to bring together the brothers in Sharjah and Dubai in a spirit of amity and brotherhood. All of us, here and there, are brothers who fully share in your anxiety or stability. I would be pleased to hear from my dear brother the reassuring news that things among all the brothers have been restored to normal in the spirit of abiding brotherhood and amity. May God be with us all.

Your brother

Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz

SPA reports that UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhaayan has sent the following reply cable to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques:

Esteemed brother custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, may God preserve him, king of the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: We received with deep gratitude and appreciation your letter on the recent developments in the Sharjah Emirate. In this letter, you reiterated the sentiments of sincere brotherhood and amity which binds the big brother to his other brothers in the most splendid and meaningful manner. You also express the extent of your mature and responsible concern for the security and stability of this region. In terms of a common heritage and destiny, we all belong to this region. Together, we are riding out stormy seas and events in a steady boat to bring it, God willing, to safe shores and to tranquillity.

We sensed in your fraternal letter a soundness of opinion, farsightedness, and a clarity of concept for which you have become famous. This is characteristic of your wise, mature, and loyal leadership that watches over the well-being of its people and concerns itself with the state of affairs of its brothers. The entire Gulf community appreciates these qualities. Our community is bound together by the ties of a common religion, history, and heritage. May God preserve you as a sincere, loyal, and wise protector of the Arab nation.

Your Majesty, with one heart and an unswerving determination we share your concern over the enhancement of the bases of stability, safety, and tranquillity along our Arab Gulf shores and in the heart of this region. This region is of vital global importance. This is particularly true under these difficult circumstances which are fraught with unruly perils seeking to destabilize security and undermine stability. They carry with them the seeds of destruction and devastation. These conditions mandate that we should all abide by the firm principle in accordance with God's saying: And hold fast, all together, by the rope which God stretches out for you and be not divided among yourselves [Koranic verse].

It pleases me to inform you, honorable brother, that the recent events which occurred in the Sharjah Emirate, a member Emirate of the UAE, are internal to Sharjah. The UAE Supreme Council is aware of the need for quick action and the important

time element. These matters require decisive, quick actions. In response to this situation, the Supreme Council has taken the initiative. After immediately holding a meeting, it issued a communique canceling the local statements which were previously issued. The Supreme Council continues to remain in open session and will issue, God willing, a comprehensive communique in the next few hours. This communique will be in the public interest. Moreover, it will reflect the UAE Supreme Council's concern over serving the people and contributing to the entrenchment of stability and security in our region. We will inform you about all new developments.

We would like to reaffirm to the beloved brother and to reassure him that security, stability, and amity continue to prevail among all citizens and emirates of the UAE. We sincerely thank you for the overflowing sentiments of brotherhood. We renew the pledge that the UAE will always remain, God willing, the firm mainstay in the lofty and fruitful edifice of Gulf cooperation. This cooperation seeks to achieve prosperity, tranquillity, and stability for our one Gulf family.

We wish you continued good health and for your fraternal people further prosperity and development under your wise leadership.

Your brother,

Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhaayan,

UAE president

Abu Dhabi, 18 June 1987

Qatari Amir Telephones Zayid

JN181754 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1740 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Doha, 18 Jun (WAKH) — QNA has reported that His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar, affirmed Qatar's concern about stability in the UAE during a telephone conversation last night with His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhaayan, the UAE president. QNA also said that Shaykh Khalifah expressed his confidence in the ability and wisdom of Shaykh Zayid and his brothers, the emirate rulers, to handle the matter in a way that will preserve the country's unity and security.

YAR's Salih Calls Zayid

JN182021 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Yemen Arab Republic, commander in chief of its Armed Forces, and secretary general of its General People's Congress, this evening telephoned his brother, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhaayan, president of the UAE, to be reassured about developments in the fraternal UAE. Shaykh Zayid informed his brother the president about how the UAE Supreme Council is handling the events.

The leader president affirmed Yemen's concern about the unity of the UAE people and support for its unionist march, stability, and prosperity.

Communications Minister, Delegation Visit USSR
JN181744 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1430 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Dubayy, 18 Jun (WAKH) — UAE Communications Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Mulla left Dubayy for Moscow today. He is leading a delegation on an official visit scheduled to last for several days and during which he will hold talks with the Soviet aviation minister. In a predeparture statement, Al-Mulla said that during the visit the two sides will sign an agreement on air transportation. The agreement was concluded during the recent visit to the UAE by a Soviet civil aviation delegation.

It names the UAE and Gulf Airlines, as well as the Soviet airline Aeroflot, as official carriers. The agreement calls for the hiring

of employees from the country owning the national carriers at airline offices in the two countries. It also gives the Soviet airline the freedom to use civilian UAE airports while the UAE can use four points or airports in various areas of the USSR.

The delegation is composed of 'Ali al-'Uways, director general of the UAE Establishment for Communications, and Muhammad Yahya al-Suwaydi, the Communications Ministry assistant under secretary for financial, administrative, and civil aviation affairs.

Chief of Staff, Delegation Return From France
JN181846 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1758 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 Jun (WAKH) — Staff Major General Muhammad Sa'id al-Badi and his military delegation returned to Abu Dhabi from Paris this evening after an official visit to France at the invitation of the French chief of staff. While in the French capital, Maj Gen al-Badi visited the international Bourges fair now being held in Paris.

USSR Minister Vorontsov Makes Statement*JN191425 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jun (INA) — Yuliy Vorontsov, the Soviet first deputy foreign minister, described President Saddam Husayn's five peace principles announced last August as being constructive towards bringing about a quick end to the Iran-Iraq war.

In a statement published in today's issue of the newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah*, the Soviet official said that his country supports these principles. Vorontsov added that his meeting with President Saddam Husayn reflects the spirit of Soviet-Iraqi friendship and efforts to promote this in various fields.

He stressed that the Soviet and Iraqi stands are identical on achieving a quick end to the war and employing negotiations to settle all questions of the conflict.

Commenting on the UN Security Council's permanent member states' continuous consultations on reaching a draft resolution on the conflict, Vorontsov stated that these consultations are continuing and progressing. Their objective is to strengthen the possibility of a serious resolution on regional peace being adopted.

Asked about his recent visit to Iran, his impression of this visit, and the talks he held there, Vorontsov stated: The Iranian officials continue saying the same old slogans about the war. However, I believe the Iranian people are very interested in regional peace and stability. They are very interested in achieving peace between the two peoples and in the region, but Iran's officials have different views on this matter.

Vorontsov stressed that the USSR is committed to a principled stand on this conflict, a stand calling for a quick end to the war and for reinforcing all international efforts within the UN Security Council's and the United Nations' framework employing all necessary measures for peace.

The Soviet official denied that he had made any statement to any newspaper before visiting Baghdad. He additionally said that none of his delegation was authorized to comment on his visit to Iraq and Iran.

The Soviet official departed Baghdad at the end of his 3-day visit to Iraq.

Commander on Iranian Casualties in 17 Jun Attack*JN190739 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0646 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jun (INA) — A senior Iraqi military commander asserted that Iranian forces faced a grave new defeat and sustained large losses in their attack against the IV Army Corps sector [east of Maysan].

Staff Major General Muhammad 'Abd al-Qadir, commander of the IV Army Corps, said in a statement published by the news paper *Al-Thawrah* here today that Iran launched a new attack at 0100 on 18 June [2100 GMT on 17 June] [time as received] against the Shurahbil Forces, stationed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. During a battle lasting approximately 13 hours, the Iraqi forces' counterattacks managed to sweep the Iranian forces under a hail of fire. The enemy attack was completely crushed, as thousands of Iranian soldiers were killed or wounded and many others captured. The enemy emerged from this battle after finding that its attacks were futile, just as in previous confrontations. The IV Corps commander stressed that the enemy will face the same fate in all operational sectors if it repeats its attacks.

Iranian National Liberation Army Formed*JN191052 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0946 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] Paris, 19 Jun (INA) — A short while ago, Mas'ud Rajavi, head of the Iranian National Resistance Council, announced the formation of the Iranian National Liberation Army. This organization will lead the Iranian peoples' struggle to topple the bloody Khomeyniite regime in Iran.

In a message addressed today to the Iranian people — who are marking the 6th anniversary of their 20 June 1981 uprising, considered a special day commemorating Iranian martyrs and political detainees — Rajavi said this army's creation has been the hope of those Iranian people who aspire to and love freedom and independence. Rajavi urged all Iranian peoples, as well as Iranian Armed Forces officers and soldiers, to join this army's ranks and then participate in the military struggle to topple Iran's ruling clique.

In his message, the content of which was given to an *Iraqi News Agency* correspondent here by the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization's office, Rajavi said that the Iranian Liberation Army's founding crowns the lengthy, bloody struggle for whose sake 70,000 people were martyred and 140,000 others arrested. Rajavi also stated that the new army will concentrate on military resistance to help topple the terrorist Khomeyniite regime, return peace, freedom, and stability to Iran, and perpetuate the Iranian peoples' uprising against the tyrant Iranian regime.

'Low-Level' Soviet Consular Delegation Expected
TA190457 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
 0405 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] A Soviet delegation will arrive in Jerusalem soon, equipped with visas issued in the last few days. Gid'on Remez reports that the details gleaned with regard to the composition of this delegation indicate that the visit might last more than a few days and that the delegation coming will be a low-level one.

[Begin Remerz recording] In Jerusalem, as in Moscow, people are making efforts to tone down the reports on and expectations of the visit by the delegation, which, were it not for the fact that it is the first one to come in 20 years, would not have made headlines. The delegation will be headed by a rather junior officer, Yevgeniy Antipov, the deputy director of the Consular Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry. He will head a delegation of approximately 10 members, comprising a full administrative team including secretaries and even a driver, which could possibly indicate that the Soviets intend to stay here for a while, if not permanently. The visas issued to them immediately upon receipt of the request through the Netherlands Embassy in Moscow are valid for a stay of up to 6 months, but include the option to extend. In their request, the Soviets did not mention a date for the delegation's arrival, but the visas allow the recipients to enter Israel within 90 days.

Consequently, there is cautious hope in Jerusalem that this modest beginning, which the Soviets maintain will deal only with consular matters such as the property belonging to the Russian Church, will evolve into a permanent presence and ties of a more political nature. Let us point out that even the church matters involve an aspect that goes beyond bureaucracy in the desire of the Red Church — whose headquarters are in Moscow — to take over property in East Jerusalem and the territories held by the White Church, which is in exile.

At any rate, Jerusalem sources have said the confidence expressed here that the Soviets will eventually agree to receive a similar Israeli delegation is founded on the Israeli assessment and on international procedure, not on any specific signal from Moscow, which claims publicly that the principle of reciprocity will not apply here. Jerusalem hopes that once the ties are institutionalized, the Soviets will overcome their fears that an Israeli delegation in Moscow would serve as a focus for Jewish activity. It is pointed out here that an imbalance in the consular representation exists anyway: Whereas the Netherlands Embassy in Moscow provides such services, similar ones are not rendered in the Finnish Embassy in Tel Aviv, which is in charge of Soviet interests in Israel.

In any case, Jerusalem maintains that the handling of immigration, like any issue pertaining to the migration of civilians, is certainly a legitimate consular matter for the future Israeli delegation to deal with. In time, the issue of direct flights via Romania, an issue that was scrapped following rather advanced-level contacts and immediately after Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Bucharest, could also be thawed. One school of thought in Jerusalem holds that Gorbachev, who is trying to rid himself of the burden of the Jewish issue and the tarnished image it creates for him in the West, is afraid that direct flights to Israel might

be presented by their opponents in the West as yet another means of coercion, thereby turning his apparent gain into a liability. [end recording]

Two Members of Delegation Named
TA191153 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 19 Jun 87 p 4

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] Israel will closely supervise the Soviet consular delegation throughout its visit. The Foreign Ministry will appoint a special liaison to assist the Soviet delegation on its official mission; namely, checking Soviet property in Israel.

The delegation is expected to arrive shortly, presumably early next month. The delegation will be headed by Yevgeniy Antipov, a Soviet diplomat. The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem does not have any detailed information about the man, but it seems he specializes in Middle Eastern affairs.

The Soviet delegation will also include people who participated in the Helsinki talks, led by (Pavlov Plakhin), the head of the Soviet Foreign Service's consular branch.

Political sources in Jerusalem believe that the Soviet delegation will be following instructions from Moscow closely and that although it will conduct a consular visit, it may also send out feelers on political matters. [passage omitted]

Novik on Contacts With Soviets
TA180841 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
 0505 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Interview with Dr Nimrod Novik, the foreign minister's political adviser, by Ya'el Dan and Mikha Friedman in the studio — live]

[Text] [Dan] Israeli policy is again showing two faces when the question of the Soviet consular delegation arises on the agenda: The Foreign Ministry supports hosting the delegation in Israel and giving the Soviets entry visas, while the Prime Minister's Office is opposed to this under the present circumstances. Dr Nimrod Novik, political adviser to the foreign minister, good morning to you. Now that the Soviets have reneged on their promises to allow immigrants to fly to Israel via Bucharest, and in view of Soviet comments to the effect that there is no rapprochement in bilateral relations, what importance do you still attach to allowing the Soviet delegation to come to Israel to examine Soviet assets here?

[Novik] If you will allow me, it seems to me that on this subject in particular we are not two-faced, because the decision to accept the Soviet appeal and grant its delegation members entry visas was made at the Prime Minister's Office during a ministerial consultation the prime minister held on this issue. The intention was, of course, that this be done on the understanding that when we make our appeal on the subject, the Soviets will also accept. However, the bottom line may be that it is worth our while for the Soviets to prefer to do more and talk less. We are always demanding that they admit to a change in direction and to

meeting our demands. On the Soviet Jewry issue, which is the main one, the Soviets may be far from living up to our expectations on the exit of these Jews. Although they have not declared a change in policy, the exit of Jews from the USSR over the past 2 or 3 months has been almost 10 times as much as in previous years. It may well be that on the consular issue, or rather the issue of diplomatic relations, the Soviets want to move slowly and gradually at their own pace. When Gorbachev threw a festive dinner for Syrian President al-Asad, he announced that the absence of diplomatic relations with Israel is not a normal situation. Gorbachev said this in front of Al-Asad, of all people, and it therefore seems to me we should allow the Soviets to tackle their dilemmas on this issue at their own pace.

[Friedman] Let me remind you, though, of a statement by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres a few days ago to the effect that the Soviets have gone back on some of the understandings already reached with Israel. Progress may be slow and gradual, but backward?

[Novik] No, the minister did not say they went back on understandings reached with Israel. I would like us to be precise: They went back on understandings, but not necessarily with Israel. We surely have disappointments that cannot be dismissed. First of all, the basic approach is not normal. Not only do we not have diplomatic relations, but on the agenda is also the main issue of the condition of Soviet Jewry: both their right to identify themselves as Jews within the USSR, and above this, their right to immigrate to Israel. It is clear that the basic thing we are talking about is dissatisfaction on our part and a repeated demand which is supported by very wide and senior circles around the world: Mrs Thatcher, Mitterrand, Chirac, and Shultz, to mention but a few. However, at the same time, it seems to me that the Soviets find themselves involved in internal struggles as to what policy they want to conduct in the Middle East: whether they want to appear as those who are sabotaging a possible political process, at a time when they are trying to create a positive image for themselves in the West, in general, and in the United States, in particular, in view of their wish to reach an arms limitation agreement...[changes thought]. Therefore, it is our duty to keep up our demands, but also to cautiously follow developments and not to try and suppress their apparent trend toward slow but gradual process. I am not convinced of this, but I want to check it out anyhow.

[Dan] This is the question: Do you feel that there has been a retreat, and not only as far as declarations are concerned?

In practical terms, I believe that the continued exit of Jews at an accelerated pace — which may be far from satisfactory for us but which is tantamount to a substantive change compared to the past — is a ray of light which may become more than just a ray. As for political declarations, the Soviet stance on an international conference and direct negotiations between Israel and its neighbors will be examined in an orderly fashion at a meeting between Murphy and Polyakov in early July. This meeting was first slated for September, but was moved up because both sides wanted to hold it earlier and discuss the issue now. We, the Jordanians, the Egyptians, and the Americans went through uneasy internal struggles over the past 2 and 1/2 years until we reached the U.S. proposals on whether or not to enter direct

negotiations through an international conference. The Soviets did not go through this process with us, yet we come to them and say: This is what we agreed upon; accept this as it stands. In my opinion, before we reach the conclusion that we have no interlocutor in Moscow, we should allow them to go through this soul-searching process and understand our limitations — what we can and cannot accept. If they are not forthcoming after they understand this, then we will have time to draw our conclusions.

Shamir Stand on Reciprocity

TA191149 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
19 Jun 87 pp A1, 7

[Reports by Zohar Blumenkrantz from the Paris Air Show and by 'Aqiva Eldar with the prime minister's entourage in West Africa]

[Excerpts][Passage omitted] Zohar Blumenkrantz, the *Ha'aretz* correspondent at the Paris Air Show, reports that the Soviet Union does not reject out of hand the possibility of cooperation with the air and avionics industries of Western countries, including Israel. In a special conversation with the *Ha'aretz* correspondent at the Soviet pavilion at the Le Bourget Air Salon near Paris, held through the good offices of a Soviet interpreter, (Vladimir Solyanov) of the Soviet Defense Ministry said that this cooperation need not have a direct manifestation; it could take place indirectly, through a third country, for example.

According to the Soviet official, the representatives to the French Air Show were given an unequivocal and direct instruction from President [title as published] Mikhail Gorbachev to try to develop ties with Western industries. He claimed that this is part of the policy of openness and an attempt to achieve cooperation. (Solyanov) maintains that the Soviet Union can make a technological contribution to Western industries. [passage omitted]

'Aqiva Eldar, who is with the prime minister's entourage to Western Africa, reports that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, en route to Liberia, heard about the Soviet intention to dispatch a delegation to Israel. He claimed he knew nothing about it and was not told that the Soviets had submitted requests for entry visas. Shamir emphasized nevertheless that he firmly insists that the principle of reciprocity be stressed and that an Israeli delegation visit Moscow within a reasonable period of time, not too long after the Soviet visit to Israel. He rejected the theory that giving the Soviets a political foothold in the peace process would pave the way for a deal that would include diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union and the granting of freedom of emigration to Soviet Jews. Shamir said that he does not accept the argument that the Soviets are in any way involved in Middle East affairs.

The prime minister reported that the Soviets have informed the Arabs of their denial of reports on the readiness to permit direct flights of Jews to Israel. He expressed disappointment with the fact that the drop-out rate has recently reached 90 percent, and attributed it to the difficulty of introducing books of Israeli information material into the Soviet Union. He expressed his skepticism regarding the chances of the U.S. Administration acceding to the Israeli Government's request that the refugee

status given to Jews leaving the Soviet Union by way of Israeli visas be revoked. The prime minister said that it is necessary to continue to demand that 400,000 Soviet Jews be permitted to leave.

Shamir Views Prospects for Kenya, Nigeria Ties

TA181515 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's entourage in West Africa — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Officials in the prime minister's entourage are today looking into the possibility that other African countries may resume their diplomatic relations with Israel and seize the opportunity of Mr Shamir's visit to the African continent to that effect. The countries likely to resume relations are Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and the Central African Republic. Hence, additional stopovers may very well be added to the prime minister's tour. However, this is still in doubt.

The prime minister told correspondents aboard his plane that the two main objectives of Israel in Africa are Kenya and Nigeria. If the latter resume their relations we would feel at home in Africa. I think this is imminent, Shamir said.

The prime minister added that Israel does not intervene in the domestic affairs of the African countries and has even refused to sell these countries equipment to quell riots, such as tear gas and bullets to disperse demonstrators.

As for the reports about the imminent visit of a Soviet consular delegation in Israel, the prime minister said that Israel insists on the principle of reciprocity but will not insist that an Israeli delegation should depart for the Soviet Union at the same time, only within a reasonable period of time.

AL-NAHAR on Shamir Africa Visit

TA181439 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic
15 Jun 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Shamir in Africa"]

[Text] The visit by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to a number of African states is an indication that Israel has begun to return to the black continent with a firm step.

The fact that the Israeli prime minister was accompanied by some businessmen who represent important Israeli companies proves that the visit is not a courtesy call, but one to rebuild a sound relationship between Israel and a number of African states and contributing to the implementation of joint projects in the agricultural, industrial, and military fields. This is in addition to what Israel has already constructed in several African states with U.S. assistance and American capital, such as dams, irrigation projects, roads, and power projects.

When the October war broke out 14 years ago, certain factors appeared that contributed to turning African public opinion in

favor of Arab causes, headed by the Palestinian cause. This occurred after the Arab countries were able to affirm their solidarity and unity of goals to the world, and when by using the oil weapon the Arabs proved that they constitute an economic power that might render every assistance not only to African but all developing countries.

All these factors induced numerous African states to sever relations with Israel, but Arab differences among various Arab regimes began to reappear in such a manner that the conference of African states held some time ago could not breach them. These differences regrettably squandered the Arabs' prestige and proved that they are not able to exploit the oil weapon either for their own or for the interests of others, especially African states.

Relations between states are based on interests. There are neither permanent animosities nor continuous friendships. Perhaps Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to the African states offers us proof that what appears to be an African rebuff to the Arabs has its roots in our differences and in the fact that we are unable to exploit many possibilities that do not come about except through unity of rank, solidarity, and unity of expression.

Peres on Place of Soviet Jewry in East-West Ties

TA171931 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said the struggle for Soviet Jewry is at a decisive point and Israel should see to it that this struggle features prominently in East-West relations. In a speech before a session of the Zionist Executive currently meeting in Jerusalem, Mr Peres said that in the upcoming partial agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union, Washington is prepared to include the Jewish cause. However, if this does not come true it will be very difficult to place the plight of Soviet Jewry at the center of international relations, the foreign minister noted.

Egyptian Envoy Views International Conference

TA181744 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni has said the opportunities embodied in an international conference must not be missed. Ambassador Basyuni said this at a news conference after a visit to the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. Our correspondent Sheli Yehimovitch was there:

[Begin recording] [Yehimovitch] Muhammed Basyuni emphasized that Egypt does not intervene in domestic disputes in Israel, but an international conference would be a golden opportunity that must not be missed.

[Basyuni, in English] We are afraid if we will not use this opportunity, a golden opportunity, the peace process will be frozen for a long, long, long time....

[Yehimovitch interrupts with Hebrew translation and paraphrasing] If we do not use the opportunity, the peace process will

be frozen for a very long time. The generations to come, he added, will not forgive us for this. Mr Basyuni confirmed that Egypt is holding talks with the Soviet Union. He says that it is impossible to ignore this power, but these contacts will not harm Egypt's relations with the United States. The PLO, he said, is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and it is with it that one should speak to solve the Palestinian problem. On the red tape over the compensation for the families of those murdered in Ra's al-Burqah, he affirmed that this is now being dealt with by lawyers from Israel, and I am sure that the families will receive justice during the Egyptian trial. [end recording]

AL-FAJR Editorial Views Arab-Israeli Meetings

TA181848 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 17 Jun 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The Arab-Israeli Meetings From Basel to Budapest"]

[Text] The meeting between a Syrian delegation and an Israeli delegation on 20 May in Basel, where the first Zionist congress was held more than 100 years ago, is an "important political act," which, according to MENA, was aimed at discussing the positions of the Syrian and Israeli sides in Lebanon. But the meeting in Budapest a few days ago between a high-ranking Palestinian delegation and a delegation from the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue committee represents, according to Syrian press and news media, "a great danger for the Palestinian cause and leads the Arab nation to weakness and division" and so forth. This meeting's objective was to promote joint efforts to secure a just and comprehensive peace in the region that reinforces the Palestinian people's national rights and saves the entire world from the tragedies of any future destructive war.

The Palestinian-Israeli meeting was not held in secret. It basically conformed with the resolutions and recommendations of PNC sessions, including the recent 18th session in Algiers, reinforcing our people's political struggle in their long march. This meeting also took place against the official position of the Israeli Government, and members of the Israeli delegation are now facing the threat of a trial after their return. This meeting, held totally and explicitly in public, is one in a series of meetings open to the entire Arab and international public opinion, devoted to achieving the Palestinian goal without resorting to plots and conspiracies, as is customary throughout the Middle East.

The Syrian-Israeli meeting, however, is one in a series of secret meetings, which they are eager to keep secret. This eagerness does not serve any Arab right but is a screen for the Syrian regime to conceal its problems and errors at the current stage.

Through Mahmud 'Abbas's interview with the Abu Dhabi-based *Al-Itihad* newspaper the day before yesterday, the PLO affirmed that meetings with Israelis will continue publicly and with total frankness, without this signifying any direct negotiations outside the framework of the proposed international conference. Then why is the Syrian regime angry at these meetings? And why does it use them as a pretext to voice its old-new opposition to legitimate Palestinian positions represented by the PLO?

We entertain the hope that a unified Arab position or at least one of solidarity will be created to confront the Israeli position, which in itself is now the only and main obstacle in reaching an acceptable formula for the international conference. But the obstinacy of the Syrian regime continues to be an impediment to building this required Arab position. Is it logical to ignore this situation and remain under the wrap of high-sounding and hollow slogans?

AL-FAJR on Arabs' 'Naive Game' With Peres, Shamir

TA181645 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 16 Jun 87 p 1

[Editorial: "A Naive Game"]

[Text] The present Israeli coalition government is moving, without obstacles and difficulties, toward the 12th Knesset elections on their scheduled date in November 1988. This comes amid the Likud's rejection, backed by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, and the Alignment's endorsement, supported by his deputy, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, of the proposed international conference with its thousand shapes or sometimes with no shape at all. In contrast, the Arab governments are clinging to the illusion of the dispute between the Alignment and the Likud and to the slim possibilities of the Israeli coalition's collapse, fueled by a sleek Israeli propaganda campaign of allegations and claims.

Currently Yitzhaq Shamir is visiting a number of African states, such as Togo, Cameroon, Liberia, and the Ivory Coast. He embarked on this visit after these countries renewed their diplomatic relations with Israel and in view of the fact that all of Africa has become an Israeli strategic target of immense political significance. Next week Shim'on Peres will pay a visit to West European countries and roam about in their institutions and establishments under the umbrella of support for his ideas and projects.

Shamir says that he is against the ideas and projects Peres is conveying to the West European governments, and Peres says that he opposes whatever Shamir raises with heads and leaders of African states. At the same time, however, they work together with one perspective; namely, to prevent the PLO from effectively reaching decisionmaking sources in Africa and Western Europe and to thwart Arab efforts — if indeed there are any — at these two prominent international locations.

The common denominator between the Likud and the Alignment, or between Yitzhaq Shamir and Shim'on Peres, is obvious, firm, and basic. How then can Arab illusions coalesce on playing a naive game between these two heads at the expense of the Palestinian problem?

What is more perilous than this is for traditional Arab differences to continue over whether the international conference should come first and Arab solidarity later or vice versa. This, at a time when Yitzhaq Shamir has said that the international conference is a dead horse on which one should not bet, and Shim'on Peres has said waiting until early 1989 has become a reality.

It is a wonder of the modern era: Will the establishment of Arab solidarity have to wait until 1989, after the Knesset elections — thus making that body a part of the Arab League?

AL-QUDS: 'First Step' Toward Peace Necessary

TA171701 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic
13 Jun 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Peace — the Difficult Road"]

[Text] The Israeli Labor Party has announced its intention to launch an information campaign to gain the approval of the Israeli public for the principle of convening an international peace conference on the Middle East under UN auspices. At the same time, Shim'on Peres, Israeli foreign minister and Labor Party leader, expressed his fear that all efforts to advance the peace process might be frozen due to the approaching U.S. presidential elections and the Israeli parliamentary elections to be held in November 1988.

The fears of Shim'on Peres, the launching of an information campaign by his party, and his proposal for holding a referendum in Israel about the convocation of an international conference, are primarily aimed at the Likud, which insists on rejecting the convening of an international conference in any form whatsoever. Consequently Peres, who is aware of the agreement of all the Arab parties to the conflict, including the PLO, on the need to convene an international conference, is thus pointing accusing fingers at his partners in the government and holding them responsible for losing the chances to expand the peace framework in the Middle East.

Peres' remarks incorporate justifiable fears in view of the negative results bound to stem from the perpetuation of the status quo. In addition to statistics on the future Jewish and Arab population, as well as the demographic problem, we can mention the growing factors of racism, extremism, bloodshed, lawlessness, and the resultant growing despair at the chances of advancing the peace process.

The problem is not confined to the Palestinians and the Arabs but includes all Israelis. The experience of the past long years has proved that gaining victories on the battlefields and in wars and the occupation of the territories do not contribute to achieving peace or to ensuring security and stability for nations. On the contrary, political and diplomatic victories must be gained, represented by the ability of decisionmakers, particularly those in a leadership position in Israel, to see the facts as they are and to be ready to propose and accept solutions that guarantee the rights of all the parties to the conflict, foremost of which are the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights.

The impediments on the road to advancing the peace process at present are the formalities. During the past years, talks focused on the procedure of holding the negotiations, and we are still standing at this point. Will the talks be held under the umbrella of an international conference with the participation of all parties to the conflict, as the Arabs want? Or will the talks be held within the framework of an international conference whose responsibility

will begin and end with the opening ceremony, as the Israeli Labor Party wants? Or will the talks be bilateral and direct as proposed by the Likud?

These problems have exhausted all efforts to advance the peace process in the region during the last 4 years. How will the situation be then, when the issue of determining the parties participating in the talks is discussed? Or when raising the issue of Israel's withdrawal from all the Arab lands it occupied in 1967 in implementation of Security Council Resolution 242? And will there be an opportunity to discuss the situation of the Israeli settlements and other difficult and complex problems? While fully cognizant of the difficult road of peace, we are totally convinced of the necessity of taking the first step.

'Terrorist Squad' Suspected of Murders Captured

TA191126 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] The security forces have apprehended a terrorist squad whose members are suspected of killing two Israeli civilians and the mayor of Nablus and of wounding several other Israeli civilians. The squad members are inhabitants of Samaria and are suspected of having perpetrated nine attacks, including the murder of Albert Bukhris and border policeman Jamil Faris in Nablus, as well as the killing of Nablus Mayor Zafir al-Masri. They also wounded several Israeli civilians and tried to murder the Janin mayor.

In reply to a question by our correspondent Arye Gus, the commander of the Central Command said that the squad that has been uncovered was murderous and dangerous and its members carried out major attacks. Major General Mitzna added that the capture of the squad is part of a retaliatory process and will prevent future killings. According to the commander, this is an achievement scored by the Shin Bet. He told our correspondent that the Shin Bet's performance has not deteriorated, as can be felt very acutely by anyone who works with the Shin Bet in the field.

Shahal Attacks Sign of 'Cracks' in Labor Front

TA180649 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
18 Jun 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by Menahem Shalev]

[Text] The cracks in the Labour Party's unified front are growing more and more visible. Yesterday, Energy Minister Moshe Shahal, while maintaining that there was "no alternative" to Foreign Minister Peres's leadership, nonetheless ripped into many of the Labour leader's latest political moves.

Labour's leaders have recently caused the party "absolutely unnecessary damage," said Shahal, by making "harmful and superfluous moves, without due consideration or consultation, and without notifying any authorized party forum."

Speaking to political reporters in Tel Aviv, Shahal specifically blasted the handling of the international conference crisis,

including the "half-baked" idea of a national referendum on the matter, the much-criticized central committee attack on Abba Eban and his Pollard report, and the failure to rustle up a Knesset majority for early elections, all of which could be traced back to Peres.

Shahal, obviously not one of the lawyers consulted by Peres on the referendum, handed out a four-page written rebuttal of the idea. A referendum would undermine the authority of the Knesset, Shahal said, would be incompatible with Israel's constitutional makeup, would not be binding on the authorities and could just as easily be used by Labour's rivals.

"It's a populist tactic," he said.

"If there is no way to pass the international conference idea through the accepted parliamentary channels," wrote Shahal, "then how will it be possible to pass a law supporting a referendum on the matter?"

The central committee meeting on Eban was a "mistake," Shahal said, pinning the blame for the debacle not only on Peres, but also on party secretary-general 'Uzi Bar'am, "who should have consulted with other people" before complying with Peres' request.

Shahal maintained that the Labour-Likud deadlock on the international conference was not final. He said that "two Herut ministers and one MK [Knesset Member]" had told him privately that the cabinet couldn't just reject the idea outright; and he believed that a "20-point" agreement between Labour and the Likud on mutually acceptable parameters was still feasible.

If such an agreement is not reached, and if the current stalemate between the two parties continues, Labour should "seriously consider" leaving the government, Shahal said, adding that "it doesn't look like there are going to be elections in 1987."

Shahal blasted the attempts to "buy" MKs to oppose or support early elections, and suggested a Labour-Likud pact to neutralize the votes of these MKs.

He said that the party's leaders are reaching decisions on their own, without consulting other party figures. "If there is no consultation," he said, "one should not expect support."

Labour's second line of leadership, he noted, had no backbone as a result of the way they were treated. In this respect, he said, Labour was "definitely inferior to the Likud."

Spokesman Clarifies Agent's Testimony on PLO Ties
TA191303 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
19 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] The Prime Minister's Office spokesman yesterday said that the newspapers had distorted the testimony of the witness 'Re'uven,' the Shin Bet agent.

"In some of the media it was published that 'Re'uven' testified that the meetings between Israeli elements and PLO representatives have strengthened the moderate wing in the PLO. [no end

quotation marks as published] In fact what the witness said was as follows: "On a purely academic level there is a trend of moderation in certain people, but I cannot say whether this means the entire organization is becoming more moderate."

The witness was presented as saying that the PLO is a political factor. What he said was: "The PLO regards itself also as a political body that is conducting a political campaign."

The witness was also presented as having said that the PLO represents the national Palestinian movement. Regarding this question, the witness stated: "The academic community sees the PLO as a representative of the Palestinians, although not the only representative."

The witness did not say there is a faction in the PLO which is considered moderate and which is willing to reach peace arrangements. What the witness stated was: "There are people (in the PLO) whose opinions have become more moderate."

The witness is attributed with having remarked that Israeli elements had been asked by the Israeli Government to hold contacts with the PLO. In fact, the witness clarified that he is not an expert on the Israeli side of the contacts with the PLO.

Rabin Remarks on 2d Anniversary of Security Zone
TA181557 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] The 2d anniversary of the establishment of the security zone in southern Lebanon is being marked today. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin sums up this period as 2 years of tranquillity in the Galilee, but at a painful cost. The problem of terrorist attacks from Lebanon has not been eradicated and will yet continue to trouble us. Our correspondent Alon Ben-David reports:

[Begin recording][Ben-David] Among all the anniversaries being marked this month, the IDF and the Defense Ministry today mark the 2d anniversary of the establishment of the security zone in southern Lebanon and of the IDF's withdrawal. The decision made then, the defense minister says today, was right. The security zone has proved itself:

[Rabin] No Israeli citizen, regardless of religion, has been killed or murdered in the last 2 years as a result of terrorist attacks from Lebanon.

[Ben-David] The price we paid was painful: 16 IDF soldiers were killed in the last 2 years in the defense of the Galilee and over 100 soldiers were wounded. The South Lebanese Army [SLA], whose ability and strength were doubted by many, has justified its existence.

[Rabin] It seems to me the SLA is currently at one of the best points of the last 2 years.

[Ben-David] The defense minister noted that this is true despite the serious blows dealt to the SLA by the Shi'ites about a year ago.

The IDF and the SLA currently continue to fight three groups: the Shi'ites, particularly the Hizballah group, who mostly direct their attacks at the security zone; the Lebanese bodies under Syrian influence, which direct their attacks at the security zone and Israel; and the Palestinians who have pursued their attempts to attack Israel.

The defense minister believes a coalition is possible — and he sees signs to this effect — between Hizballah and the PLO, a coalition which would step up attacks against Israel. Summing up the last 2 years the defense minister said: The problem of terrorism has not been solved.

[Rabin] The political reality, the internal power struggles, and the foreign elements influential in Lebanon make it impossible for us to see the situation in Lebanon calming down in the future. [end recording]

Northern Command Chief Interview

TA181730 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Telephone interview with Major General Yosi Peled, commander of the Northern Command, by Goni Savir and Sha'ul Stav in the studio — live]

[Text][Stav] Do you foresee the situation in the area heating up as a result of recent incidents?

[Peled] This question is always asked after each incident in the security zone.

[Stav] There have been two incidents in the last 2 days.

[Peled] There have been two and there will probably be another two incidents in the future. The situation is not deteriorating. This is just an ongoing trend of attempts to attack us in various ways. I do not see any change in the scope of the attacks on our troops in the area.

[Savir] Today we mark the 2d anniversary of the IDF's presence in the security zone. Upon assuming your job, one of your objectives was to hand over as many IDF positions as possible to the South Lebanese Army [SLA]. Do you feel today that this is possible, that this is being implemented satisfactorily?

[Peled] [Break in transmission] the strengthening, training, and formalization of the SLA. I believe this process will take place within a short period of time, within a few months.

[Stav] Are the recent terrorist penetrations directed at troops stationed in the security zone or do you think they are trying to reach our border?

[Peled] Most operations are directed at the troops in the security zone. However, we also know about terrorist squads whose objective is to reach the Israeli border, such as the two squads caught last Passover: one that managed to cross the border and was annihilated in the area between the kibbutzim Yiftah and Manara, and a second squad annihilated in the western sector of

the security zone a week later. All in all, most operations at the moment are directed at troops inside the security zone. However, there are also terrorist squads whose intention is to get to Israel.

[Savir] Do you feel these squads, particularly those of Hizballah, are more daring?

[Peled] No, I do not think so, although people sometimes try to say that. I would like to emphasize that in almost all the incidents in which Hizballah squads were fired on they quickly ran away. Their victories in the attacks on SLA positions in November 1986 and last January were not scored under fire, mostly. Wherever they encountered fire they did not show themselves to be great fighters.

[Stav] Is this constant pressure also being exerted on the Christians in the Jazzin area?

[Peled] Yes, of course. This pressure has been and will continue to be exerted on the Jazzin area. There is an independent Christian force there and it has recently been attacked.

[Stav] Does the IDF also back the Christian forces in Jazzin?

[Peled] The IDF is not there. If and when they need military assistance, we will decide on the time and place of such assistance.

[Savir] Maj Gen Peled, could you enlighten us about the state of relations between the IDF and UNIFIL? There have been conflicting and slightly confusing reports about certain incidents. Could you perhaps elaborate on the latest incident with UNIFIL? What is the IDF's explanation?

[Peled] Our relations with UNIFIL are fine and nothing has changed. To my regret, a local incident was blown out of proportion. One must bear in mind that UNIFIL finds itself in an almost impossible situation in the security zone and that it operates in an area where it cannot exercise any influence. There has been and there will again be friction. However, I am very serious when I say we have no problem whatsoever with UNIFIL. Relations are good and there is cooperation between us. The latest incident was a local event that stemmed from a misunderstanding between officers on both sides, and nothing more than that.

[Savir] We have no problem with UNIFIL. But do they also not have any problem with us?

[Peled] They certainly have no problem with us.

[Stav] Are the Syrian forces stationed in Lebanon in any way connected or do they have an impact on what happens in the security zone?

[Peled] I could not say there is a direct connection, but there may be an indirect one. The fact that they are stationed where they are has put an end to the camps war between the Shi'ites and the Palestinians. This has enabled Amal, just to cite one, to divert more forces at the security zone. This is the connection I can

establish at present between the Syrian presence in Lebanon and what is happening in the security zone.

[Stav] Maj Gen Peled, thank you very much.

Intelligence Head on Chemical Weapons, Borders

TA181400 Tel Aviv BAMAHAHE in Hebrew 17 Jun 87 p 6

[Report by Eldad Yaniv]

[Text] "It is not reasonable to assume that the Arab countries will be able to present a unified Arab position on the issue of the convening of an international conference for a solution to Middle East problems. In a certain situation, the power of the process may make them unite and present a unified front on specific issues to be presented at the conference." This was said last week by Major General Amnon Shahaq, head of the IDF Intelligence Branch, at a news conference to mark Intelligence Corps Day last week.

Maj Gen Shahaq added that "if an agreement really is achieved between the PLO and Amal, terrorist attacks in the security zone will increase. The Hizballah organization itself will continue with the attack attempts because it thinks it is winning certain successes."

"Syria still bears the banner of the main hostility in the Arab world," the Intelligence Branch head said. "Because of its terrible economic situation its Army has not undergone any drastic changes and weapons are reaching it slowly. Syria is still awaiting the MIG-29's and we believe it has not yet received T-80 tanks and SS-23 bombs. There is no doubt the Syrians are also engaged in equipping themselves with chemical weapons. The Intelligence Branch, for its part, is doing all it can to warn of every threat, including biochemical warfare, in good time."

"The Jordanian border is calm," according to the head of the Intelligence Branch. "But despite Jordanian policy, a great deal of sabotage materiel and weapons are being smuggled in over the open bridges. As for Egypt, the central rule there is stable, despite the domestic lack of quiet prevailing there because of the grave economic situation. Over the past few months there has also been an improvement in Egypt's relations with the Soviet Union."

In Maj Gen Shahaq's view the Iran-Iraq war is not about to end, and from the aspect of the balance of forces, it does not appear that either of the sides has the ability to gain a victory. "Only the disappearance of one of the leaders, particularly the death of Saddam Husayn, would almost certainly bring about its end."

"The IDF Intelligence Branch," Maj Gen Shahaq noted, "is now coping with a grave shortage of Arabic speakers. There is a real problem on this matter. The people have to be trained over a long time and the remainder of their service in the Intelligence Corps becomes extremely short."

UNRWA Head Tours Al-Duhayshah Refugee Camp

TA181140 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1000 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] At the end of a tour of the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, UNRWA head Giorgio Giacomelli believes that Israel should think of new ways to respond to the incidents in the refugee camp. He said erecting fences is a technical move that could cause a wave of hostility and is not encouraging. He said activities should be found that will affect the lives of the refugee camp inhabitants. The UNRWA head reported that the Agency's budget for aid to the Middle East during the coming year is estimated at \$200 million.

Our correspondent Ilan Ben-Dor reports that the UNRWA head met with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, heads of the Civilian Administration in Gaza, Judea, and Samaria, and with notables. This afternoon he is to meet with Shmu'el Goren, the coordinator of government activities in the territories.

Cairo Paper Claims West Bank Evacuation Plan Made

TA181358 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
18 Jun 87 p 2

[Text] Cairo — An Israeli plan for a solution to the Palestinian problem which, among other things, includes an Israeli withdrawal from four districts in the West Bank, has been submitted to the Egyptian Government. This was reported yesterday by the Egyptian opposition organ *Al-Ahali*.

The plan, formulated by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, was submitted in the course of a recent secret visit to Cairo by Avraham Tamir, director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry.

The plan talks about cooperation between Egypt and Jordan and does not assign any role to the PLO, the newspaper points out.

According to this plan, Israel would pull its troops from four districts in the West Bank where there is a large concentration of Palestinians — the areas of Nablus, Ramallah, Hebron, and Al-Birah — as well as areas densely populated by Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

The plan goes on to say that Israeli settlements would be evacuated from the above areas, which would be subject to Jordanian sovereignty. Egypt, which in the past controlled the Gaza Strip, would nevertheless assume responsibility for this region in the framework of Jordanian sovereignty.

Jordan and Egypt would undertake policing duties in these areas, confined only to maintaining public order. For its part, the IDF would safeguard the security of the Jewish state as well as security on the borders with Jordan and Egypt and in those settlements that are not evacuated.

Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari adds:

It seems the purpose of this report is to discredit the Egyptian Government for holding contacts with Israel on possible solutions at the expense of the PLO. *Al-Ahali* is one of the opposition

papers. It is quite inconceivable that Avraham Tamir would propose the evacuation of settlements. As for a solution in Gaza, the policy currently being implemented there is exactly the opposite, as evidenced by the fact that Egypt has been severing its relations and ceding its place to Jordan. It was only recently that Egypt refused to make Port Said available for the marketing of Gaza's agricultural produce, drastically cut the number of students from Gaza studying in Egypt, and legislated laws restricting inhabitants of Gaza from acquiring land in Egypt.

As for the arrangements in the West Bank, this is actually what the Allon Plan is all about. The report in *Al-Ahali* is more credible in this respect because, despite the fact that Jordan has officially rejected the Allon Plan, what is now happening in practice is that Jordan and Israel are conducting a joint policy along the lines of that plan.

IDF Fears Weapons Moving to Territories

TA181530 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
18 Jun 87 p 2

[Report by Yitzhaq Ravyihya]

[Text] There is an increasing fear in the security establishment and the IDF of a stream of IDF weapons and fighting means coming into the possession of hostile elements. This is particularly so in view of the fact that the last two attacks — that on the No 451 bus at the Bet Dagan junction, which was on its way to Ramallah; and the hand grenade that was thrown at an Israeli car near Pisgat Ze'ev in north Jerusalem — were committed using IDF-made No 26 fragmentation grenades.

It is known that the terrorist organizations in the territories are suffering from a shortage of sabotage materiel, and security sources have reported that there is concern over the possibility IDF weapons will reach terrorists who will use them to carry out attacks in Israel. Recently, dozens of sports clubs, engaged in various fighting doctrines, have sprung up throughout the territories and in East Jerusalem. Thousands of young people,

mainly from Islamic circles, are training there in karate, judo, boxing, and free fighting. Security sources believe the clubs and their activities are being funded by hostile elements abroad.

This is not a new phenomenon, but there has been a worrisome increase recently in their quantity and nature, which has become nationalistic. Sources have reported that there are several dozen more such clubs in the territories each year.

A debriefing [as published] has shown that these clubs hold, among other things, "nationalistic celebrations" disguised as sports contests. Cups inscribed with the names of killed terrorists are distributed to the victors in the boxing and fighting contests. Each month contests that end with nationalistic celebrations are held, including singing and speeches to "reinforce the firm stand for armed force against the enemy."

Two of the perpetrators of the attack at Jerusalem's Dung Gate, in which the father of an Israeli soldier was killed and 70 soldiers and civilians were wounded, were karate trainers in one of these clubs.

SLA Unit Considered for Use at Al-Khiyam Site

TA181947 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] The South Lebanese Army [SLA] has set up a military police unit. IDF instructors are training its men, who will engage in guard and policing duties in the various SLA battalions in the security zone. They may also take up policing duties in the SLA's detention installation at Al-Khiyam. Israeli security sources told the *Reuter* correspondent that Israel is determined not to be regarded as responsible for this installation.

Amnesty International has recently published charges about severe torture of the inmates by SLA personnel. The Israeli sources said Israel is doing everything it can to persuade General Lahd to improve treatment of the inmates. The sources attributed the reports about irregularities in the installation to the brutality pervading life in Lebanon.

Military Governor Dissolves Writers' Association*JN180931 Amman AL-RAY in Arabic 18 Jun 87 pp 1, 22*

[Text] Amman — The general military governor dissolved the Writers' Association and its branches in the kingdom yesterday.

Ministry of Information sources said that the association was founded in 1974 by writers and men of letters. Its purpose was to develop the literary and cultural movement. After its inception, it began to accept members who were not associated with such an objective. In view of the fact that the genuine writers shunned vituperations and distanced themselves from the state reached by the association, these people were able to turn the organization into a cover for achieving their own selfish and factional interests. Thus, they transformed the association into a place for anarchy and activity wholly unrelated to culture and literature.

Al-Ra'y has learned that a large number of writers and intellectuals will soon apply to the Ministry of Information for the formation of a writers union in order to activate the literary and cultural movement. In addition to ability and creativity, there will be clear conditions for membership.

The Ministry of Information is now studying the formation of a union of Jordanian artists that embraces the creative and artistic capabilities that are now suffering from lack of organization and disarray in the theater, the graphic arts, the cinema, music, and other fields.

Information Ministry officials said that the ministry is drawing up the necessary legislation to organize and promote cultural and artistic activity.

Specialized committees of prominent writers, men of letters, intellectuals, and university professors will be formed to participate with the Ministry of Information in formulating the necessary bases for such a move.

PFLP, DFLP Condemn Decision*JN181406 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] An informed source in Amman has said that the Jordanian Writers' Association, which was closed down by the Jordanian Government yesterday, was dissolved on the pretext that it had been infiltrated and was dominated by a group of persons who were not writers. The source stressed that an association of Jordanian intellectuals will soon be established to replace the

Writers' Association. It will be set up according to clear, specific membership conditions.

The PFLP and the DFLP today contacted us to condemn the Jordanian decision to dissolve the Writers' Association and close its offices. They called on the Jordanian national forces to pressure the Jordanian authorities into revoking their decision.

Iraqi Transport Minister Departs After Visit*JN180824 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Jun 87*

[Text] Amman — Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi, Iraqi transport and communications minister, left Amman for home today following a 6-day visit to Jordan. During his stay, he held talks with Transportation Minister Eng Ahmad Dakhqan. Their discussions touched on relations between Jordan and Iraq, particularly with regard to various transportation fields, as well as ways to promote and bolster them. Al-Zubaydi also attended the meetings of the general assembly of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company. He was present at the meeting of the joint Jordanian-Egyptian-Iraqi committee entrusted with discussing ways to implement the shipping cooperation agreement by establishing the Arab Maritime Bridge Company.

UN's Goulding Concludes Talks, Leaves Amman*JN171945 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 17 Jun 87*

[Text] United Nations Assistant Secretary General for Special Political Affairs Marrack Goulding left Amman this evening at the end of a 2-day visit to Jordan during which he conferred with his majesty the king and a number of senior officials.

Mr Goulding said in a departure statement he was pleased with his meeting with his majesty the king. He also commended the king's efforts to achieve a just and durable peace in the region. Mr Goulding said the views of his majesty and those of the United Nations Secretary General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar were identical on the urgent need to convene an international conference to achieve a just and durable peace in the Middle East. He said he will submit a report to the UN secretary general on the outcome of his fruitful talks with senior Jordanian officials.

Mr Goulding was seen off on departure by Jordan's Ambassador to the United Nations 'Abdallah Salah and a number of officials.

Al-Huss Condemns Kidnapping of Glass, 'Usayran
NC190945 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
 0900 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran, accompanied by Deputy Rene Mu'awwad, called on acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss at his home at 1100 this morning. They discussed the abduction of 'Ali 'Usayran and U.S. journalist Glass. Al-Huss strongly condemned this action, saying that such things serve only the enemies of Lebanon. We will do our utmost, he added, to secure the release of 'Ali, his companion, and all kidnapped persons.

Council Demands Release
NC190511 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
 0445 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] The Supreme Shi'ite Islamic Council has denounced the kidnapping of 'Ali 'Usayran, son of Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran, and his guest Glass, and has demanded their immediate release, saying that the Islamic shari'ah rejects and condemns such activity.

The council recalled its previous stand on such actions, asserting that this method is illegal and totally unjustified. Shaykh Shams al-Din also condemned the incident and called for the release of 'Usayran and his guest.

Minister al-Rasi held several meetings and demanded quick action to release 'Ali 'Usayran and Glass. He met with Brigadier General 'Umar Makhzuni, chief of the General Authority's operations room, and Colonel 'Abd al-Karim Ibrahim.

'Asim Qansuh, regional secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Organization in Lebanon, visited 'Adil 'Usayran and condemned the kidnapping, saying that he considered the operation harmful to the security plan in West Beirut.

'Adil 'Usayran was contacted last night by President Amin al-Jumayyil, Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss, former President Sulayman Franjiyah, Interior Minister Dr 'Abdallah al-Rasi, Information Minister Joseph Skaf, and PSP Political Bureau member Akram Shuhayyib.

Kidnappers May Release 'Usayran
NC190502 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
 0426 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Excerpts] A new member has joined the list of foreign hostages in Lebanon in the first operation of its kind since the Syrian deployment in West Beirut this past February. The new hostage is the American writer and journalist Charles Glass, who was kidnapped along with 'Ali 'Usayran, the son of Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran, and 'Usayran's aide, former policeman Sulayman Sulayman, in Al-Awza'i 2 days ago.

Although no party has claimed responsibility for the operation as yet, *Reuter* cites an Islamic source as saying that the kidnap-

pers, who belong to a radical group of Hizballah, are the same ones who are holding the other U.S. hostages. [passage omitted]

It has been reported that the kidnappers may have agreed to release the son of the defense minister and his aide, but they will keep Glass.

'Usayran Rejects Own Release
NC190909 Paris AFP in English 0904 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Beirut, June 19 (AFP) — 'Ali 'Usayran, the son of Lebanon's Shi'ite defense minister who was abducted in Beirut Wednesday with U.S. reporter Charles Glass, refuses to be released without him, a member of the minister's family told *Agence France-Presse* on Friday.

Mr. 'Usayran's attitude "embarrasses" the kidnappers who find themselves in a dilemma, said the family member, who wished to remain anonymous.

Mr. 'Usayran and Mr. Glass, a 36-year-old reporter for the U.S. network ABC, were abducted in a southern suburb of Beirut as they were driving into the city from Mr. 'Usayran's home in Al-Rumaylah, 37 kilometers (23 miles) south of Beirut.

"'Ali feels responsible for Charles Glass and does not want to leave him," the source said. "We have great hopes that the kidnappers will release the two men together," he added, saying that he had had "indirect contacts" with the kidnappers. [passage omitted]

Minister Accuses Hizballah
NC191248 Paris AFP in English 1239 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Beirut, June 19 (AFP) — Lebanese Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran said Friday that pro-Iranian Hizballah militants were holding his son 'Ali and a U.S. journalist who were abducted in a southern suburb of Beirut.

"I accuse nobody, but I am told that the Hizballah (party of God) was holding them, as well as the Lebanese policeman who was serving as 'Ali's chauffeur," the Shi'ite Moslem minister told journalists.

He said that he had made no contact with the Hizballah group of Moslem fundamentalists and had received "no guarantee" that his son or the chauffeur would be released soon.

"There is no new element but I am optimistic and I hope that they will be freed today or at least soon," he said. [passage omitted]

Hizballah Denies Involvement
NC191149 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
 1135 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] *Reuter* cites an Islamic militia source as saying gunmen of the pro-Iranian Hizballah had a hand in the abduction of U.S.

journalist Glass. However, Hizballah strongly denies any involvement in the incident.

Qabalan Addresses Amal, Hizballah

*NC191228 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] In his Friday sermon today, Mufti 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan said he who tries to protect a criminal or cover up his actions is an accessory after the fact. He addressed the Amal Movement and Hizballah, saying that as long as these two parties wish to uphold security, they should be held responsible for any crimes that occur in West Beirut and the southern suburb.

Mufti Qabalan went on to say that the people are not slaves. He expressed surprise at the abduction of the son of Minister 'Usayran and his American friend in broad daylight on the Al-Awza'i road, where the Syrians are in charge of security.

Qabalan also called for the entry of the Syrians into the southern suburb.

Kidnappers Contact Syrian Forces

*NC190929 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0919 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] A new development affecting the issue of the abduction of U.S. journalist Charles Glass emerged this morning. *Reuter* cites a source close to the Syrians as saying that the kidnappers have contacted the Syrian Forces in Lebanon in an attempt to arrange a deal for the release of Glass. The same source said that one of the kidnappers has been identified, and he is trying to save his life in return for the release of those who were kidnapped.

Threaten to Kill Glass

*NC191400 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1345 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] It was learned this afternoon that the kidnappers of U.S. journalist Charles Glass are threatening to kill him.

We note that no party has so far claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of the U.S. journalist and Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran's son and his driver.

Syria Warns Hizballah

*NC191359 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1315 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that at noon today, the Syrian leadership conveyed to Hizballah leaders its official position on the kidnapping of U.S. journalist Charles Glass, 'Adil 'Usayran's son, and their companion. The Syrian leadership strongly warned the Hizballah leaders to unconditionally release the three kidnapped people soon and maintained that the kidnapping was directed against the Syrian security plan. The Syrian

leadership stressed that it will use force, if necessary, to secure their release.

According to a report by our correspondent, the Syrians have been placed on a state of alert in West Beirut and there have been more frequent Syrian patrols on the main streets there. AFP has quoted a source close to the Syrian forces as saying that the kidnapping of Glass and 'Usayran's son constitutes a challenge to Damascus, disclosing that Syria believes the incident could affect the credibility of the Syrian security plan in West Beirut. Syrian officials in Damascus and Beirut are exerting pressure for the quick release of the kidnapped people. While not explaining the nature of such pressure, the source said that it is being exerted on all those who may have a connection with the kidnapping or have influence on the kidnappers.

Hizballah Responds to Syria

*NC191448 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1415 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] It has been learned that Hizballah's response to the Syrian stand is that it will not guarantee the life of the American hostage if any Syrian military action is directed against the southern suburb [of Beirut].

Fadlallah Makes Contacts

*NC191716 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] Our correspondent telephoned the residence of Hizballah spiritual leader Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah and was told that so far absolutely no new information has come to light in connection with resolving the issue of the three kidnapped individuals. He was also informed that Fadlallah is making contacts in this regard and that he condemns the kidnapping.

Reward Offered for Information on Karami Death

*NC181455 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has directed Judge Joseph Juraysati, the director general of the Presidential Office, to take the necessary measures to pay 15 million Lebanese pounds to anyone providing information leading to the apprehension of the criminals or those involved in the assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The president also requested Judge Juraysati to ask the Judicial Prosecution Office to determine the method by which the reward is to be paid and the ways the secrecy of the information and the safety of the source can be ensured.

Al-Turk Meets With UN Under Secretary General

*NC181952 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1915 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Excerpt] UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding arrived in Lebanon via Damascus for a 1-day visit this evening

and met with Foreign Ministry Secretary General Fu'ad al-Turk. During their meeting, Goulding and the Foreign Ministry secretary general discussed the nature of his mission to Lebanon.

The UN envoy stated after the meeting that he has come to Lebanon to discuss the issue of the proposed international conference to resolve the Middle East problem. He noted that he will not discuss the situation in southern Lebanon as he has done in the past. [passage omitted]

Al-Jumayyil Receives Goulding

NC191419 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Marrack Goulding, the UN under secretary general for political affairs, was received by President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, acting Prime Minister Salim al-Huss, Information Minister Joseph Skaf, and Foreign Ministry Secretary General Fu'ad al-Turk, today. They conveyed to him Lebanon's official position on an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

Governor Denies Christians 'Liquidated' in Tripoli

NC191427 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1114 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Governor of the North Iskandar Ghibril stated that in its 13 June edition, the *Al-Nahar al-'Arabi wa Al-Duwalli* newspaper wrote, under the title "Bodies and Extreme Caution", that the corpses of several Christians, who were liquidated on a sectarian basis, were discovered in Tripoli groves the night Prime Minister Rashid Karami was assassinated. The paper added that the security services had imposed a blackout on the news for fear of a reaction. The governor of north Lebanon emphasized that the report was a total fabrication, and thus necessitated his clarification.

Resistance Ambushes Israeli Patrol; Casualties

NC181538 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
in Arabic 1430 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Resistance fighters ambushed an occupation forces patrol on the road between Al-Hasbani Bridge and Zummarayya Hill in Hasbayya District, in the eastern sector, at 2300 yesterday. The resistance fighters opened fire with automatic weapons and rockets as the patrol passed. A 30-minute clash ensued in which more than seven members of the patrol, including a captain, were killed or wounded. A military vehicle was also destroyed. Three resistance fighters were martyred in the attack, while a fourth was wounded but able to withdraw from the occupied areas. The occupation forces then sent in heavy armored vehicles which took up positions on the hills of Zummarayya, Zaghlah, Shwayyah, and 'Ayn Qinya, and shelled seven villages in the liberated Hasbayya area and western Al-Biq'a. [passage omitted]

In other developments, news correspondents have reported that a Zionist force estimated at 100 soldiers and supported by 7

armored vehicles entered the occupied border area, specifically the Mimis area, last night. The force conducted a wide-scale search during which a number of people from the area were interrogated. According to reports received from the eastern sector, a Zionist force comprising 15 tanks and vehicles entered southern Lebanon from three axes and penetrated approximately 8 km to the north of the occupied areas. Three tanks penetrated into the Jwayya area, seven vehicles into the 'Ayn Qinya area, and five into the Zaghlah area. The armored force, accompanied by 150 Israeli soldiers and officers, carried out a wide-scale search in the areas.

UN Soldier 'Seriously Wounded' in SLA Attack

NC191059 Paris AFP in English 1040 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Tyre, Lebanon, June 19 (AFP)—A soldier of the Nepalese contingent of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was shot and seriously wounded near here Friday by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA), UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel said.

SLA militiamen opened fire on the soldier as he escorted a group of villagers to Kafra, where a Nepalese UNIFIL unit is posted, 101 kilometers (63 miles) south of Beirut. The soldier was hit in the chest and flown by helicopter to a hospital in Al-Naqurah, the UNIFIL headquarters, Mr. Goksel said.

The incident came after a meeting of observers of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) and SLA leaders to discuss the "repeated aggressions against UNIFIL and particularly against the Nepalese contingent," according to a UNIFIL source cited by local correspondents. The Nepalese post in Kafra has been attacked four times in the past two weeks, leaving one soldier wounded late Sunday.

Maj Gen Lahd Inaugurates Al-Naqurah Port 17 Jun

JN180733 Marj Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope
in Arabic 0500 MT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Yesterday, Staff Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the South Lebanese Army (SLA), officially inaugurated the port of Al-Naqurah in the presence of General David Agmon, commander of the Israeli liaison unit; Colonel (Hayim 'Arev), head of the civil administration; and a large gathering of Israeli officials and senior SLA and Israeli Army officers.

On this occasion, Maj Gen Lahd asserted that the border zone will remain open to all Lebanese regions because it is an indivisible part of Lebanon. Maj Gen Lahd called on all Lebanese to abide by the spirit of accord and coexistence prevailing in the border zone. He expressed hope that this spirit will soon prevail throughout Lebanon so that the Lebanese will reunite and manage to tackle their issues by themselves without allowing any outside interference for pressure. It is noteworthy that the improvement work carried out by the SLA in the port of Al-Naqurah lasted 2 consecutive years. Today, this port is capable of receiving large ships whose weight ranges between 1,500 and 2,000 metric tons, and can receive more than 1 ship at a time.

Further Reports on Visit by Iranian Officials**Al-Shar' Receives Iranians**

JN171336 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today received Mohsen Rafiqdust, Iranian minister of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, along with Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian assistant foreign minister, and Iran's ambassador in Damascus. They discussed the current situation in the region.

Rafiqdust Cited on Hostages

LD181736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, held a press conference in Damascus today. He commented on the latest developments of the imposed war and the current situation in the Persian Gulf region. According to an IRNA dispatch from Damascus, the Guards Corps minister referred to the present plight of the Iraqi regime when he said: The Persian Gulf should either be safe for everyone or for no one. He added: If the superpowers were to go mad and resume the tanker war in the Persian Gulf, it would make no difference to us whether we challenge a superpower or someone else. If this happens, we shall make this region unsafe for everybody.

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Minister described relations between Iran and Syria as very good and said: The state of Syria will never trade its strategic bilateral relations with the powerful Islamic Republic of Iran for ties with a weak and dying regime.

While denying rumors on the existence of hostages in Iran, Rafiqdust said: Islamic Iran does not permit anyone to transfer their hostages to Iran.

The minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, together with our country's commerce and economy ministers, met with Syrian Foreign Affairs Minister Faruq al-Shar' this afternoon to discuss the two countries' relations.

Further Rafiqdust Remarks

JN181924 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Mohsen Rafiqdust, Iranian minister of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, has praised the results of his political and economic talks with Syrian officials stemming from the existing relations between the two countries. He spoke at a news conference held at the Iranian Embassy in Damascus today together with Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian assistant foreign minister, and representatives of Arab and foreign news agencies. Rafiqdust talked about the Iranian revolution's support for the Palestinian cause. He added: The Iranian revolution has turned Iran from a base of aggression, encroachment, and domination against the region's states into a base for supporting the people's struggle.

On the Iraq-Iran war, Rafiqdust said that Iran does not want to occupy Iraq or any part of the world. He added that the Iranian revolution considers the Iraqi people to be friendly.

Rafiqdust denied that Iran has any connection with the hostages.

Cooperation Committee Meets

JN181734 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus — The Joint Syrian-Iranian Committee for Economic, Scientific, and Technical cooperation held an expanded session this morning. It was chaired by Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi and Iranian Commerce Minister Dr Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari. The session was attended by Finance Minister Dr Mohammad Javad Iravani.

During the session, the two sides reviewed the results of the subcommittees' meetings in the fields of trade, industry, and economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. They discussed the achievements in this regard. Both sides expressed their desire to expand the volume of trade and promote and activate bilateral economic cooperation in the interest of the Syrian and Iranian peoples. The two sides agreed to sign new contracts for the export of some Syrian products to Iran. They also reviewed the possibility of establishing joint Syrian-Iranian projects in the fields of tourism, industry, and trade, as well as other projects. These projects are intended to boost and develop the methods of joint cooperation. The two sides agreed on several other banking and financial issues. Their views were identical on all topics on the committee's agenda. Both sides expressed the desire to continue to promote all ways and means of joint cooperation.

Visit by Soviet Parliamentary Team Continues**Khaddam Receives Soviets**

JN181134 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1015 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Comrade Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and his accompanying delegation at 1000 today. The meeting was attended by Aleksandr Dzasokhov, USSR ambassador in Damascus, and Comrade Shakir Sa'id, chairman of the Arab and international relations committee in the People's Assembly.

Talks dealt with relations of friendship and cooperation in various fields between Syria and the USSR. Emphasis was laid on the importance of promoting relations in light of the results of the recent talks held between President Hafiz al-Asad and CPSU General Secretary Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow. Such promotion is in the interest of both countries and their joint struggle against common enemies.

Al-Zu'bi Hosts Banquet

*JN180741 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 17 Jun 87*

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi hosted a dinner banquet at the Al-Sham Hotel this evening in honor of Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and his accompanying delegation. The banquet was attended by the ministers of foreign affairs and education, the ministers of state for foreign affairs and for People's Assembly affairs, members of the People's Assembly, and a number of assembly committee chairmen. Also attending were members of the Syrian delegation to the talks, the Soviet ambassador in Damascus, and embassy staff. The secretary general of the Arab Parliamentary Union and heads of the socialist countries' diplomatic missions also attended the banquet. During the banquet, cordial speeches were exchanged which expressed the deep sentiments of friendship between Syria and the USSR.

Al-Ahmar Meets Delegation

*JN181452 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, this morning received the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation headed by Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The meeting was attended by Comrade Shakir Sa'id, chairman of the Arab and International Relations Committee of the People's Assembly, and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus.

The talks dealt with the developed relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the CPSU and between the two countries in all aspects. The talks also dealt with the cooperation between the People's Assembly in the Syrian Arab Republic and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in the Soviet Union.

The head of the visiting delegation spoke about the positive impressions he had gained on his visit to Syria and on his meetings with Syrian officials. He said that these meetings had revealed the two countries' understanding of key issues and regional and international developments.

Comrade al-Ahmar spoke on the ties of cooperation binding the two parties and countries and on the development and depth of these ties. He noted that these ties are based on the strong and unshakable friendship binding the two countries' peoples. He referred to the importance of the visit paid to the Soviet Union in April by Comrade Struggler Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party and president of the republic, and to the positive results of this visit. He also referred to the new prospects created by this visit for further developing and enhancing ties of friendship and cooperation and for reinforcing joint action. He also expressed his appreciation for the Soviet Union's positive stands on the causes of both the Arab nation and Syria and the Soviet Union's confrontation of the Israeli aggression and the imperialist-Zionist designs to impose hegemony and domination.

Comrade al-Ahmar reiterated Syria's principled and constant stand under Comrade Struggler Hafiz al-Asad to confront all imperialist and Zionist schemes. He said: Our intrinsic powers and our faithful friends throughout the world, like the friendly and faithful Soviet Union, make us feel that we are strong. He also emphasized the importance of the Syrian Arab-Soviet understanding to try to bring about a UN-sponsored international conference with the participation of the permanent UN Security Council members and the parties to the conflict to achieve a just, durable, and comprehensive peace in the region. This peace would return the territories occupied in 1967 to their rightful owners and help realize the inalienable, legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

For his part, Comrade Ryuytel reiterated his country's support for the Arab nation's causes, Syria's steadfastness, and the confrontation of aggressors and their expansionist schemes. He said: The two countries hold identical views on the current issues, and they are waging a common struggle against the imperialist and Zionist enemies.

Al-Zu'bi Talks With Soviets

*JN181722 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi today received Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and his accompanying delegation. During the meeting, they reviewed aspects of cooperation, coordination, and exchange of expertise on bilateral and international parliamentary levels. Ryuytel expressed appreciation for the great attention and hospitality accorded to him and his delegation during the visit. He also highly valued the results of the talks and the meetings the delegation held at the People's Assembly and with senior party and state officials which confirmed the profound friendship linking the two friendly countries.

Information Minister Receives TASS Director

*JN181545 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Damascus — Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh today received TASS Director General Sergey Losev along with SANA Director General Dr Sabir Falhut.

During the meeting, talks focused on the advanced information relations between Arab Syria and the USSR and the need to continuously develop them in line with the two countries' joint struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and all enemies of the peoples. The minister discussed the success of the second conference of nonaligned states' information ministers recently held in Harare. He reviewed the role played by Syria's delegation to reach positive resolutions in the interests of the Third World people's struggle and their hopes for liberation, progress, and building their future. He also talked about the unanimous agreement reached by the conferees in support of Syria's call for an international conference within the UN framework to differ-

entiate between terrorism as a condemnable act and the nations' struggle for freedom and sovereignty.

Foreign Minister Confers With UN's Goulding

*JN181435 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today received Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for special political affairs. The meeting was attended by Assistant Foreign Minister Diya'ullah al-Fattal, Major General 'Adnan Tayyarah, head of the Syrian side to the UN armistice commission, and Ahmad Fathi Nasri, director of the organizations department at the Foreign Ministry.

Goulding reviewed the contacts and consultations held by the UN secretary general on the prospects for convening an international Middle East peace conference. The minister expressed Syria's desire to back the UN efforts to find a just, durable, and comprehensive solution to the Middle East issue within the UN framework and in accordance with its resolutions on the Arab-Israeli dispute and the Palestinian question. He reiterated Syria's support for a genuine and effective UN-sponsored international conference.

AL-THAWRAH Cited on U.S. 'Pretexts' in Gulf

*JN180728 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[From the press review]

[Text] In its comment today, *Al-Thawrah* deals with U.S. pretexts to control oil sources and its insistence on increasing its military presence in the Arab Gulf region as part of an overall

hostile strategy. The paper explains that these pretexts reaffirm that the U.S. Administration seems to have decided to implement its plan to control oil sources. To facilitate this, it is fabricating a pretext. The administration has even resorted to hiding behind feeble excuses, such as accusing a certain side of planning to attack U.S. ships. This is a serious precedent in international relations that has been initiated by the United States to justify any aggression or terrorist action which the U.S. forces may begin.

Strangely, the United States speaks about protecting U.S. interests and the interests of its Western allies, while several Western allies refuse to respond to U.S. calls to intervene in the region. They base their stand on the grave dangers which such an intervention could pose to world peace at large. *Al-Thawrah* affirms that the U.S. Administration, which lost its credibility in the region and the world and even with the American people themselves, is deluded in its belief that by resorting to military force it can compensate for its foreign policy's political and moral defeats. However, the results will certainly be contrary to its expectations. The world public at large is convinced that the U.S. Administration ignited the war in the Arab Gulf and is kindling this war and trying to exploit the dangerous escalation to intervene militarily, impose hegemony and control over the oil sources, and seal off the region for the benefit of Washington and its designs.

The paper concludes: The U.S. Administration is ignoring the principal fact that the region's nations and their national liberation movements cannot possibly submit to the logic of aggression. Moreover, world public opinion and all the liberation and progressive forces in the world cannot possibly allow the imperialist aggressor forces to impose the law of the jungle and logic of aggression to oppress the will of the struggling nations or confiscate their freedom and sovereignty.

Najibullah Gives Report to PDPA Central Committee
LD162254 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
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[“Condensed version” of report by Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, presented at the PDPA Central Committee Plenum in Kabul on 10 June — read by announcer]

[Text] One hundred and forty-five days have passed since the party and popular sovereignty declared the policy of national reconciliation. These have been days of struggle and hope, days of success and sorrow, but undoubtedly the most glorious days in the 23-year history of the PDPA. We have accomplished a great deal and have traveled a difficult path. Our objectives shine like snow-covered peaks. Sometimes they seem to be very near and sometimes they are covered in clouds. In difficult times, however, we also remember our objectives and move toward them. During this period, we have acquired extremely valuable, vivid, and true experiences of conciliation. We are no longer in the same condition we were in during the month of Jadi [22 December 1986-20 January 1987]. Since then, national reconciliation has been transformed from invitation, slogan, and hope into a new page in our history. Conciliation is being transformed into a fresh thought and into reality. It is now acquiring new, more specific dimensions and a national character. This policy allows people from both sides who have suffered from the 9-year war to see an opportunity to escape the bloody crisis. It is a policy which has enjoyed huge international approval and support.

National reconciliation is not the creation of an individual mind. It is one of the worthy services provided by the party. By adhering to the scientific revolutionary theory, the party has put forward something which represents the people's urgent desire; it has offered a system of courageous and comprehensive thoughts. Social processes, of course, cannot necessarily yield speedy results. Such results cannot be expressed in figures, although they increase daily and objectively prove that we are following the only correct path.

During the sessions held in the month of Hamal [21 March-20 April], the practical activities of the Central Committee, its Politburo, and its general secretary, as well as the policy of national reconciliation, have all received the full support of partymembers. For us, this fact is the most essential and valuable result of our work.

Our Armed Forces have been significantly strengthened and their authority enhanced during the last period. State power controls a large number of villages, and a significant number of additional villages have come under state sovereignty peacefully during the period following national reconciliation.

All social, economic, and political processes have been accelerated under the fruitful influence of peaceful aspirations. The first 5-year plan since the revolution is being implemented. A decree guiding the relationship between land and water has been approved, and relations with private investors have been expanded and strengthened.

The party is growing, while the authority of the National Front and other social organizations is being increased. The cadres

policy is evolving. People are now united around the PDPA even more closely and have given the party the most lofty value of human civilization; that is, ensuring the continuation of its existence. A lot of work has also been accomplished in the Farah, Badghis, Balkh, and Paktia Provinces during the period of national reconciliation.

The peace process, which has acquired greater dimensions, undoubtedly exerts increasing pressure on the opposition. The opposition has been confronted with a difficult choice; namely, it either has to accept peace or continue to serve the selfish interests of its imperialist masters. The process of division and groupings within the armed counterrevolution has intensified. With each passing day, the number of former members of the armed opposition joining us increases. Many of them serve in regional forces or are engaged in peaceful endeavors.

Tens of thousands of armed individuals are in contact with or are negotiating with the state. The fundamentalist and irreconcilable counterrevolution, which is the open enemy of reconciliation, has been more specifically identified. It is obvious that the majority of these people are terrorists. In spite of various obstacles, a total of 59,000 refugees from Pakistan and Iran have crossed the barbed wire around the camps and have returned to their homeland before their case could be solved through diplomatic channels. Had hostile foreign governments not created serious obstacles to the mass return of refugees to their homeland, the number of those doing so would naturally have been much higher.

Periodic attempts by the resistance to create an Afghan government-in-exile have failed, although constant efforts are being made in this regard. The opposition and their supporters concentrate more on political maneuvers, and most of them are now utilizing words of compromise.

One can state specifically that the policy of national reconciliation responds to the interests of the majority of the Afghan people and has been affirmed and supported by them. This gives an irreversible character to the PDPA's invitation to peace and creates realistic conditions for enhancing the PDPA's authority and credibility among the masses. This is a major result and a starting point for the tasks ahead.

The policy and thinking of national reconciliation has aroused great interest abroad; that is, in the United Nations, in the Islamic Conference Organization, at the Afghan-Pakistan talks in Geneva, at the gatherings of friendly and fraternal parties, and in international social organizations. Confidence in the righteousness of our choice in the interest of peace is increasing everywhere. Testimony to the DRA's enhanced authority and status internationally is the fact that the number of delegations visiting our country in the last year has tripled. We have also established political relations with Zimbabwe and Cyprus, and our relations with India are developing successfully.

The Politburo is reporting these things in order to demonstrate to you our progress toward reaching reconciliation. We can then specify our future reference points and accounts based on these gains. It should be stated that the first steps — and only the first steps — have been taken. With the passage of time and with the

help of our people and friends, we can succeed in further achievements.

A considerable number of problems also exist in the implementation of this policy. These include armed interference from outside, the existence of complex situations in certain strategic regions of the country, and the expansion of the undeclared war against the DRA.

Pakistan equates safeguarding its national interests and national security with increasing assistance to Afghan counterrevolutionaries. Efforts to create a so-called Council of Mujahidin, with the responsibilities and character of a future interim government in Afghanistan, began in April 1987 as the result of pressure from the Pakistani Government and the United States. The aggressive counterrevolutionary circles are not inclined toward forming a coalition based on political foundations. By compromise they mean the complete removal of the PDPA from government. Of course, this is the voice of the White House, and the White House does not want the PDPA to head the negotiation table.

The policy of reconciliation is more difficult and more complex than we imagined. To whatever extent we intensify this process, its dimensions and importance are to that particular extent revealed, and new matters then unfold. On the other hand, the policy of reconciliation cannot be the sole work of our party and state. The opposition must also follow this path. National reconciliation is not a one-way street. In the interests and social needs of the Afghan people, the process of national reconciliation should be given new momentum based on evolvable decisions. Let us agree on one fact; namely, that we have convinced our people of the righteousness of our choice. Now we should actively encourage the people. Serious haste should be made in our peace-seeking activities.

It is the Politburo's opinion that this spirit should dominate the atmosphere of today's plenum. In accordance with theory and practice, strategy and tactics, and experience, we should assess ways to lay the foundations for the irreversible process of national reconciliation.

First, we will begin with the state of the party and our society's political system. It would not be an exaggeration to say that in the last 5 months, our militant party has appeared as a mobilizing force with combat capabilities. We did not previously possess a ready plan for further work or the time needed to ensure practical readiness under the conditions of reconciliation. Leadership cadres and party members learned these things along the way and restructured themselves. Everywhere they are explaining the complicated problems related to reconciliation. They are resolving all the issues that have accumulated during the 8 years since the revolution. In the meantime, the theory and policy of reconciliation have been enriched. They have evolved with new ideas that are not only the product of our own experiences but the lessons derived from international experiences.

The new conditions demand that cadres strengthen their ability to simultaneously solve large and small issues in both cities and villages. They must also possess the ability to expand and consolidate contacts, conversation, and open and sincere talks with people and in turn rely on their experience and support.

The policy of national reconciliation has itself carried out a natural selection of cadres based on efficiency, selflessness, and loyalty to the cause of revolution instead of individual personalities; loyalty to the party and not to factions. During the time that has elapsed, Comrades Zohur Razmjo, Nasim Joya, and Farid Lali, secretary and deputies of the Kabul City Party Committee; Comrade Hamdard, secretary of the Jowzjan Provincial Party Committee; Comrade Sepahi, secretary of the Herat Provincial Party Committee; Comrade Esar, secretary of the Nangarhar Provincial Party Committee; Comrade Nazir Ahmad Mayhanpur, secretary of the Taknar Provincial Party Committee; and Comrades La'eq, Masir Paktin, and Nazar Mohammad have all performed with self-sacrifice.

In the meantime, we have not yet restructured the cadre policy. By indifference to the pressures of nepotism, friendship, and factionalism, we commit mistakes. Some Central Committee departments are not courageous enough to call a spade a spade, or to demand work from those whose efforts for the revolution ended with the acquisition of leading positions in Kabul or the provinces.

I recall a popular proverb that says: Still water stagnates quickly. I think that this proverb should be the basis for our work with cadres. Stagnation and lack of movement in the ranks of cadres irreparably damages our work. We observe the principle of putting together experienced cadres with inexperienced youths.

Why are we afraid to promote young people instead of those who lack discipline, who cannot fulfill the plan, or who do not restructure their work? The national reconciliation process has brought thousands and thousands of talented organizers and leaders of the masses to light. We must search for them, train them, and assign them serious and great tasks. My objective, above all, is workers, peasants, soldiers, and officers. We need talent, not authority. The resolution of cadres issues should always be inseparable from implementation of the national reconciliation policy. Equal representation of tribes and nationalities in party and state leadership bodies should be ensured everywhere. As for the promotion of female cadres, it must be said that they virtually do not exist in the leadership or middle circles, despite the fact that 13,000 patriotic women are members of our party. Men have been appointed to some special positions for women.

A careful and difficult task lies before us; namely, to rectify the present situation. Each one of us has a chance to show our potential today, for there are many tasks in the party. However, we resolutely say goodbye to those who have not restructured themselves and who rely on the old ways; they do not want to serve the reconciliation process and even make futile efforts to slow it down. We should not treat kindly those in a leadership position who harm the interests of the party and people. We now rely more on those officials and others who can offer guidance on the path of reconciliation, both in cities and in villages. The interests of the party and people are the most important things for us, and the law on the appointment of cadres must be based on such a principle alone. The leadership cadres that can rely on the people and enjoy their support are the best guarantee for the success of reconciliation.

The Politburo has created a special commission for cadre affairs that will assess in a preliminary and careful manner every new candidate who is nominated for a position requiring the approval of the Central Committee.

The expansion and deepening of reconciliation and restructuring is the task of those circles closest to the people. We have seen how the activities of the primary party organizations can be accelerated. If the number of primary party organizations is increased, then obviously the number of secretaries in primary party organizations must be increased as well; they will be faced with more work issues. Alongside every provincial committee a school for secretaries of the primary party organizations must be created to teach them the principles of party structure, and the secretaries and department heads of the provincial party committee must attend these schools for training. We must teach the secretaries and mobilize them through the experience of party activities. Reliable resources exist to enhance the combat ability of primary organizations.

There is also the problem of reciprocal relations between the secretaries of primary party organizations and those in charge of institutions and government departments. Any culprit who undermines the common effort and productive cooperation will face party censure and will be relieved of his duties even if he is a secretary or in charge of an institution or department.

A firm path for the realization of the national reconciliation policy can be found in enhancing the organizational level and combat ability of the party and its primary organizations, particularly in rural and border regions.

Regarding the growth of party ranks during the period following the 18th plenum, 39,000 people have joined the party in the last year; 18 percent of these are workers, 27.8 percent peasants, 2 percent tradesman, and 25 percent representatives of the intelligentsia. One can be happy and proud with this quantity and quality.

We are well acquainted with the hostile foreign voices and the rumors within the country which say that no one will join the ranks of the PDPA after the change in party leadership and under the conditions of reconciliation. However, the people have joined our party, and this growth in party ranks is a fine standard and an outstanding index for the support the people give to their party and its leadership.

The party sessions during Hamal [beginning 21 March] were a formidable event for internal party life. At the same time, these sessions accomplished several things; they have been transformed into a school for political training, night-long conversations, and lectures on the nature of the new reconciliation policy. These sessions are vivid examples of the growth in internal party democracy. For the first time, open conversations took place in the party and among its members. For the first time, ordinary party members discussed fundamental issues pertaining to the current condition of the PDPA and our revolutionary government.

Under the conditions of national reconciliation, these sessions have enriched the practice of party work and our sociopolitical

life. These sessions have displayed the formidable interest of our party members in successfully implementing the national reconciliation policy and in subsequently consolidating the unity of party ranks. They have also provided the possibility for the government to consider various questions that have been raised. As a result, the ground has been prepared for representatives of the Central Committee to learn about the positive and weak points of party activities.

Valuable initiatives and proposals were presented by the toiling masses at these sessions. This is very worthwhile and shows that our people are the true inventors of reconciliation.

The PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, and the DRA Council of Ministers are commissioned to consult with the people further and to learn from their progressive elements. At these sessions, defects in the work of primary party organizations, in city and ward organizations, and in the central organs can be exposed. The Politburo has issued a special resolution containing relevant instructions to ministries and government departments. All Politburo members who have worked in the various localities have been tasked with reviewing the progress achieved in resolving the questions that have been raised within 2 months.

All comrades who address primary organizations must report the demands of the central organs to party members. Such meetings with party members have recently taken place in Kabul city, where seven members of the Politburo answered questions from party members via radio and television. This is important and unprecedented work. We must expand this form of Central Committee consultation with the party ranks. Enhancing the authority of our party sessions depends on how we implement the decisions made by them. These meetings assist in removing such shortcomings as the leadership's isolation from the cadres and masses of people.

Comrades, we are at the threshold of the most important event in the party's life. In June, 10 years will have passed since the PDPA's two factions were unified into a single party. This date marked a turning point in our party's life and activities. In a short time the party increased its effect on the country's political struggles.

The united PDPA is correctly playing a resolute role in preparing the victory of the national democratic April revolution and in grasping political power. No other group or faction has been able to accomplish this historic duty. No other political organization can compete with the PDPA in terms of power and influence in social life. We should learn from the lessons gained by this outstanding event in the party's life. Only a united and disciplined party can be a moving force in society. National party discussions on such issues during Hamal [beginning 21 March] play an enormous role in this respect. In the pursuit of openness, the party demands further consolidation of party unity and the expulsion of factionalists. We have pinned special hope on the commission for the unity of party ranks created at the side of the Politburo.

Second, I would like to further explain the question of coalition in greater detail. The PDPA has always believed that objective

conditions exist for creating a true and practical coalition of all the nation's democratic and patriotic forces. Such a coalition would be capable of bringing an end to the fratricidal war, maintaining and normalizing the country's situation, and solving vital and urgent national questions. In order to accomplish this, the efforts of all parties and political groups, spiritual leaders, social organizations, and patriotic personalities must be joined together in a united antiwar movement. We must all take part in implementing the measures of compromise based on the policy of national reconciliation.

Everyone has expressed anxiety about the character of state sovereignty in conditions of national reconciliation. Life itself has responded to this question. It is obvious that state power, like national reconciliation itself, objectively involves compromise and will enjoy a wider representation among the people. The true forces now opposed to us could participate in this state power in various forms, provided that they serve reconciliation. For example, in bodies of state power that would have a mixed form or in sovereign bodies like the Armed Forces and people who wait and are neutral.

We will deal now with the forms of power. Compromise finds a natural place in politics and in a coalition of various progressive forces. The peace-seeking activities of the people brought about interesting and, to a certain extent, unexpected questions. The formation of a coalition government in our country has started at the bottom, from the front line of confrontation, and is gradually working its way upward. It is spreading to the village, subdistrict, district, provincial, and higher levels. If we discuss the practical aspects of this issue, it should be stated that we are witnessing the signs of a coalition government in several villages, subdistricts, districts, and provinces. This activity, particularly in the Kaldar and Shoutepa Districts of Balkh Province, is proceeding in an interesting manner. Throughout Afghanistan, some 4,000 representatives of the opposition have so far been included in the commissions of national reconciliation. Five ministers who have worked with all past regimes are serving in the Council of Ministers. We welcome and support such a trend and are ready to open the doors of the ministries, the Council of Ministers, social organizations, and creative unions to those who come in peace.

In a word, coalition is not a propaganda symbol. We are not limiting it to the disposition of two or three positions to representatives of the opposition. It is necessary to divide power. This fact originates from the logic of the national democratic revolution and the present conditions of Afghan society.

In accordance with national and historic traditions, the Politburo finds a republican presidency the most acceptable form for the state power's supreme administration. However, the president should not be the symbol of power; he should be its true reflection.

The time has come to specifically propose state posts to the opposition since some of the opposition forces have displayed inclinations towards compromise. We should take practical and specific steps primarily towards those groups ready for coalition and cooperation. It is worth mentioning that we should also consider the present stands of the uncompromising forces and circles, which are instigated towards war and opposition by U.S.

imperialism, the U.S. Administration, and their partners, that is, NATO countries, regional reaction, and other antagonistic forces.

The mechanism whereby positions would be proposed to the opposition could be revealed by making an announcement or by openly reporting it in the mass media without referring to the name of any specific party or person. In the meantime, time passes. It is not necessary to wait and see. We believe that it is important to exert political pressure on the internal and external counterrevolution by organizing contacts with representatives from the refugees, moderate forces, monarchists, the three parties, the commanders of the second category bands [mujahidin combat bands], political figures of past regimes, influential and well-known spiritual leaders, the special sections of tribes, and armed opposition groups inside the country. These should be utilized as an interdependent collective force.

Coalition methods of government are different and embrace the organs of state power, social organizations, and the supreme commissions of national reconciliation. I would particularly like to outline the role of the national reconciliation commissions.

The other effective form of coalition is the peace jirgahs, the convening of which distinguishes the villages, subdistricts, districts, and provinces of peace. These peace zones are formed through coalition by signing agreements with the opposition within the framework of national reconciliation commissions.

Another method is to preserve the traditional forms of administration through the village elder [qraiadar] or district governor. Such a method would be acceptable provided the policy of national reconciliation is followed. In these circumstances we are prepared to materially maintain the traditional forms. We should courageously create various bodies of power in those regions not under our control.

Military units, including Afghans and Soviets, will withdraw from the regions that have convened a peace jirgah. However, Sarandoy and self-defense groups would remain in these localities. Ex-opposition groups could also later join these groups. All party-state organs and social organizations should concentrate on this method of successfully struggling for peace and normalizing the country's situation. This task should be completed in 2 months. A supreme peace jirgah is due to be convened in Sonbola [23 August-22 September]. This matter will be discussed with you today in detail. Some proposals on the convocation of the Hazara nationality, in which mutual pledges between the Hazara nationality's jirgah and the DRA Government have been approved, have been offered. The first jirgah of nomads will also be convened in the near future.

The DRA Basic Principles — a document which forms the country's temporary constitution — was enforced 7 years ago. We created the necessary foundations for legislation which sought to unite national and patriotic forces and all the people as the basis for a new state. The foundation of the new constitution will be based absolutely on the idea of safeguarding Afghanistan as a country with national sovereignty and territorial integrity. We hope that this constitution will be a true law of national peace.

The commission has ended its work on the draft constitution. The draft will be put to referendum in the near future. Let the views of our people be reflected in the country's new constitution. In light of the preparation of the draft constitution for discussion by the people, we are considering the following matters:

The historical, religious, educational, and cultural traditions of the people should determine the form of the state and the essence of the constitution in accordance with the will of the people.

The people themselves reflect sovereignty in Afghanistan. They do so in the body of their authorized representatives based on observation and respect for the traditions and the sacred religion of Islam.

Afghanistan should be a sovereign state with territorial integrity, nonalignment, Islamic foundations, and neutrality.

Afghanistan is administered by a coalition comprised of representatives from all social and national forces, parties, and organizations which have chosen the path of reconciliation. The constitution guarantees that it will consider the position of all sides included in the coalition for the purpose of national peace. This will be done in a worthy manner in accordance with the new method of the coalition administration. We welcome the development of dialogue with the opposition within the framework of comprehensive discussion. By this it is meant that all compatriots outside the country, without exception, are invited for talks and discussions, particularly those with whom we share many points of view and with whom contact has been established.

Taking into consideration previous discussions, the constitution reflects the new matters which have been brought about in the state and social structure by life and the process of national reconciliation. In short, everything will be done to ensure that the new constitution, as a legal document, will reflect and guarantee the will of all the Afghan people for peace and unity in the country.

In the course of discussion about the new constitution, it is also necessary to focus on another issue. The primary goal is for the idea of national reconciliation to be implemented in all aspects of the state structure; that is, in all parts of our home called Afghanistan. We are making realistic efforts in this direction. Under the conditions of national reconciliation, we should correctly recognize the development of the situation in and around the DRA. It is obvious that interference and aggression from abroad is continuing. Imperialism wants to broaden the base of this fratricidal war. To achieve its goals, it creates ambiguity and confusion in the eyes of our compatriots with regard to our position toward Islam and the name of our country. As a result of this, large groups of our people inside and outside the country do not understand the name of our country properly. In our realistic and resolute approach toward realizing the policy of national reconciliation, we must eliminate such artificial obstacles and ambiguities from our path. Our first task, therefore, is to mobilize all forces inside and outside the country to achieve national peace and bring an end to the aggression of imperialism and regional reaction. Conditions dictate that all the people and the broad strata and groups be mobilized toward the creation of a wide national front for maintaining peace.

Taking into consideration the aforementioned facts, and for the purpose of realizing the aspiration of peace in our beloved homeland, we propose the name of the Republic of Afghanistan. Of course, all these matters can be reviewed during the national discussion about the new constitution. We see our aims, righteousness, and power coming together in one point; namely, that our beloved country, today and forever, will continue to adhere to a policy of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, neutrality, and nonalignment, and will continue to be a peace-loving and Islamic country with good-neighborly interests with the entire family of mankind.

I would like to point out that the question of the name of the state is of international importance in the region, as well as on a broader scale. The name of the state should enshrine not the name of Afghanistan in comparison with others, but, on the contrary, interest in cooperation and closeness.

It is necessary for us to think about this matter; that is, that the country's name should reflect our loyalty to peace both inside and outside the homeland, our loyalty to traditions, and our loyalty to the interests of international and regional cooperation. I believe that I am repeating myself when I say: Let all the nation's citizens, including those abroad, consider the matter and resolve it according to their wishes.

On the whole, in a state structure and in sociopolitical life one should not follow an arbitrary path or engage in such creations, ideas, and organizational forms that the people are not prepared to accept and therefore do not need. We have committed these mistakes several times in the past and must eliminate them in practice now.

The question of a multiparty system lies before us in the context of the continuation and growth of our political traditions. This matter in no way contradicts the essence of the national democratic revolution. Multiparty systems can also be seen in the higher stages of social organizations. In our country, the way has been paved for opening up the process to a number of parties and organizations. These groups have been active for several years now and wish to serve the process of national reconciliation. We do not insist that these parties completely agree with the PDPA in theoretical, strategic, or tactical matters. They can have their own views.

However, one question should undoubtedly be considered: Every party and organization is dutybound to support the overall aim; that is, the policy of national reconciliation, national sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence, nonalignment, the establishment of peace in Afghanistan, the consolidation of the traditional and historical friendship with the Soviet Union, and the growth in relations with neighboring countries. Naturally, those who need each others' joint efforts could create a bloc or unit. From the aforementioned process it can be concluded that parties could exist independently, provided that they peacefully utilize the means and methods at their disposal in their activities. It is obvious that such a unity of the country's political forces could be realized more successfully within the framework of the National Front.

It will not be unexpected in any way if those who have not joined us so far — not only at the level of the National Front but on the basis of political blocs and a lasting peace — form their own parties.

The mechanism of this bloc is clear. Parties that enter this bloc will hold a constituent congress in which plans for conciliation will be specified. A coordination council will be created that will govern the bloc's activities. The bloc can include its stance toward the government in its program.

Our allies have time and again put forward the issue of establishing new parties. We know that our clergy want to establish a new, popular, and peaceful party in Afghanistan. Social and political conditions exist for forming a peasant party in Afghanistan. Despite all the miseries, approximately 80,000 peasants still work on land that they received as a result of land reform. Around 40,000 peasants are members of cooperatives. The representatives of this, the most democratic nucleus of peasants, are proposing the formation of a party which could reflect and safeguard their special interests. Here one cannot discount that the need for the formation of a democratic party reflecting the interests of a national bourgeoisie will arise. It is obvious that if one of the seven parties [the seven-party alliance of the Afghan mujahidin] or moderate monarchist organizations agree to national reconciliation and to their legalization in Afghanistan, then we are ready for constructive cooperation. Proposals are probably better assessed during preparations for the relevant decree and the draft constitution. Legalization of the multiparty system demands that our party change the methods and forms of its work and undertake special discipline and responsibility. We should be ready for this possibility. The unity of all progressive forces in a single democratic front against reactionary circles which enjoy the all-round support of both regional and international reaction is in our view the only true way to establish a democratic regime in the nation. It is also a reliable barrier against reaction. Time and again we have called on all democrats and true patriots for common action to end war and fratricide, to improve people's living standards, and to ensure the country's development toward progress, democracy, and independence. The attitude adopted toward such issues inevitably indicates a borderline that divides all political parties, organizations, and groups into two sections: those who care about people and the homeland and those who make a business out of the people's and the homeland's misery and sorrows.

We are not dreamers. There are problems in achieving our party's unity of action with other democratic, national, and patriotic forces, and we do not regard them as simple ones. However, (our) firm position is this: that those parties and organizations which are truly democratic and concerned about the destiny of the people and country should not settle their differences by military means.

With regard to a coalition approach to the activities of social organizations, the National Front, the DRA trade unions, the DYOA, and the National Council of the Women of Afghanistan play an important role. They can do a great deal to expand contacts with the opposition. The policy of national reconciliation demands a high level of political and educational work to solve complicated tasks. Educational work in particular provides a

basis for the party's link with the masses. These links will be stronger when we [word indistinct] work with individuals and speak to people in a simple and understandable language. If words and thoughts come from the heart, then they can always be acceptable to others.

The Central Committee and the government highly regard the participation of scholars, lecturers, teachers, literary workers, artists, and representatives of the clergy in propagating the policy of national reconciliation. The Politburo has positively assessed the work of the Second Congress of Creative Unions and the [word indistinct] of academicians and candidate academicians. More attention should be paid to developing the Academy of Sciences, and we have decided to assist in constructing and [word indistinct] complex of this organization. Huge propaganda campaigns must be organized as part of the preparations for the revolution's 10th anniversary. Past years have been years of work and great trials. Let us defend our last 9 years, for each year has cost our people and friends dearly. Our sacred tasks are to nurture feelings of gratitude, love, and respect for the great people of the Soviet Union and for the CPSU for their support to Afghanistan and for rendering selfless and fraternal assistance.

We have not yet learned the method for struggling for national reconciliation, for coalition, for winning over people and cooperating with the opposition in a truly complex [kompleks] manner. Let this work be little but complex [kompleks]. A large number [words indistinct] and directions for this activity still fall below the plan, and our progress is uneven. Regression should not exist in national reconciliation because he who remains behind bears responsibility for the continuing bloodshed in his section of work.

Third, let me comment on the issues related to military structure under national reconciliation. It should be said that plans for the nation's development in the political and social sectors are fully dependent on the state of military affairs. We have time and again stated that the Armed Forces conscientiously observed the cease-fire conditions for 52 days following the declaration of the national reconciliation policy. For nearly 2 months we did not engage in combat. The greatest combat army in the region did not fire even a single shot in the course of 2 months. And we only resorted to action when people requested that a retaliatory blow be inflicted on the enemy in response to repeated enemy fire. The entire world saw that we resolutely kept our word over the course of 52 days.

The enemies of Afghanistan — the enemies of reconciliation — are increasing their armed interference in the nation's internal affairs from abroad. The dimensions of the undeclared war against the DRA are expanding. In some strategically important regions, the complicated situation remains unchanged. Washington and Islamabad are pursuing a policy based on increasing military tension in Afghanistan. The rebels have made a final decision concerning the defeat of the national reconciliation policy.

Efforts to neutralize the process of reconciliation by military force have presented the Armed Forces, especially the Army, with the task of foiling counterrevolutionary activities, routing irreconcilable bands, and annihilating depots, bases, weapons convoys, and the reliable cover of the DRA's borders with

Pakistan and Iran. It is very natural that successfully accomplishing these tasks demands further strengthening of the Army, Sarandoy, and the state security bodies. We have adopted a series of measures in this direction, including the approval of the new General Conscription Law, increasing the salaries of Armed Forces personnel, and allocating additional privileges for them. By precisely utilizing these measures we can seriously enhance the Army's level of combat-readiness. For example, in recent months Kabul has conscripted 92 percent of those who are eligible. As you know, Kabul usually implements conscription above plan.

A series of measures to improve the material and living standards of troops, NCO's, and officers are being implemented. These privileges should not be kept hidden, for it is necessary to explain to people that the Army is a privileged section of society. We ought to strengthen the process of creating a single system for planning and mobilizing the activities of all the DRA Armed Forces' units. By this we mean a structure based on the traditional principles of organizing the state's defense in tribal areas. In addition to regular military units and companies, which are basically tasked with carrying out military operations, we should also consider local units, which generally solve issues related to the consolidation of state power in the villages, in this structure. The regular Afghan Army at the time of Ahmad Shah [the founder of Afghanistan in 1747] only comprised one-third of all forces, the remainder of which were made up of local volunteers.

A question may now arise: Don't these measures contradict the policy of national reconciliation; aren't all these measures against this policy?

No. On the contrary, the situation demands that this happen. These measures are not directed against those who accept the policy of national reconciliation. They are not directed against those who value the interests of the Afghan people; namely, the immediate cessation of war and the establishment of peace on Afghan territory.

We have several times announced the fact that national reconciliation is not a sign of our weakness. The current state system — despite its weaknesses and defects — exists as a system and possesses the experience of government and leadership. If this policy has enemies who, backed by imperialism and regional reaction, seek to test our strength militarily, then they should expect to receive even further response from the other side.

I now turn to the question of reliably protecting the DRA's borders with Iran and Pakistan. This question does not concern the complete closing of borders. We are closing the paths of war. Paths to our homes used by peace-seeking inhabitants, traders, convoys carrying foodstuffs and industrial goods, and tribal nomads are not effected by this border policy. The measures we take to consolidate our borders are in no way directed against the traditional relations between the tribes in the DRA and that side of the Durand line.

Our party and its Central Committee will make every possible effort to further consolidate the Armed Forces. These forces are dutybound to play an important role not only in peaceful activities but in normalizing the internal situation and in implementing

the new policy as well, particularly since their combat capability has now sufficiently improved. To move this gigantic force and to obtain a useful return from them, it is necessary that the Armed Forces be well-organized and expertly led. It is necessary to take decisive measures with regard to the consolidation of military discipline, the activities of commanders with complete authority, and military organizations. The protection of rights in this area must be better maintained.

Under the conditions of national reconciliation, the peace-seeking activities of our Armed Forces have expanded intensively. These tasks include the defense of citizens; assistance in the building and repair of schools, hospitals, mosques, and roads; and agricultural work. In the past, these activities were carried out by the Army, the Sarandoy, and the state security organs. The volume of these tasks is now several times greater. Dealing with refugees, distributing free assistance, and ensuring broader propagation and publicity work in rural areas have been added to these tasks. It is enough to note that during the period of national reconciliation, the publicity units and groups of the Army, Sarandoy, and security organs have traveled to villages, subdistricts, and districts more than 3,000 times. They have distributed free assistance worth more than 800 million afghani to the people. It is now necessary to comprehensively strengthen this work, more efficiently utilize the experience gained, and eliminate existing defects in a practical way. We are dutybound to help the Army transform itself into a capable force, one able to find an independent solution to every sort of military task. This is our first priority. The Armed Forces are the pride of our party and people. The strength of the party is hidden in the people and in the Army.

Fourth, what is the nation's economic situation? The success of the national reconciliation policy, and primarily a complex approach to it, is hidden in unified action between the military, political, social, and economic spheres. All these spheres exist in a close reciprocal relationship with one another and complement each other. The economic sector, however, occupies a special place in this regard and is a powerful tool for achieving reconciliation. Efforts to achieve peace bring about the best opportunities for the economy to be in the frontline of the struggle for reconciliation and to be transformed into a reliable, secure support.

We all have reason, on behalf of the plenum, to express thanks to the country's toilers, particularly to the working class. As a result of their efforts, the country's GNP reached 155.6 billion afghani, thereby exceeding the 1985-86 level by 3.7 percent. During past years, this index only grew at 5.3 percent. National revenue is now 103.5 billion afghani, again 3.6 higher than last year. Plans in the construction sector have been implemented at a rate of 113.8 percent. The most important Afghan-Soviet projects are now in operation: technical systems, the Salang Tunnel, the construction of runways at Kabul Airpori for internal flights, the 110 kilovolt power transmission line between the Soviet Union and Konduz, the 1,000 kw mediumwave radio station in Kabul city, the steel melting plant in Jangalak, the gas condensate processing plant at Jarqoduk, mines, a blood bank, residential dwellings, and a number of other projects.

In the meantime, social and economic growth plans in a number of ministries and departments of party organizations have not been transformed into law for implementation without exception.

Work with national entrepreneurs has gained momentum. The self-administrative organ of private entrepreneurs, that is, the Economic Consultative Council, has obtained broad authority and defends its interests at the highest level of government. This has created good bases for the convergent growth of the state and private sectors. The first nationwide conference of private entrepreneurs, which was convened in the month of Hamal [21 March-20 April], played a special role. The documents approved at this conference show that national entrepreneurs seriously recognize and accept the policy of national reconciliation. The conference participants voted for the new policy not only with a show of hands, but also with their capital. This action attests to many things, primarily confidence in the state and trust in the future. It is sufficient to note that over the past 6 months, the state has received only 110 investment applications from private national entrepreneurs. National entrepreneurs have expressed special interest in utilizing the 50 million ruble credit the government has obtained from the Soviet Union for developing the private and mixed economic sectors.

While outlining the economic development of localities, we need to accelerate self-sufficiency and improve maintenance. This has reached the point where we are transferring wheat to localities and regions which previously not only supported themselves, but sold a surplus. The transfer of material from the capital should not discourage the local people from obtaining and utilizing local resources. This fact might encourage private investors and make better use of their capabilities, which thus far have been poorly utilized in the localities.

We are witnessing new forms of cooperation with the Soviet Union. By this I mean the cooperation of Russia's provinces and the USSR's Central Asian Republics with our provinces. This cooperation should not be construed as official receptions and applause; our friends will help us in solving many social and economic questions.

A special department under the Council of Ministers will be created to deal with relations with the Soviet Union. The party's plans for creating a stable economy as a firm basis for the realization of the national reconciliation policy constitute the foundation for the DRA's social and economic development plan for 1987. Compared with 1978 prices, the country should produce a GNP of 162.3 billion afghani, with a growth of 4.3 percent and a national revenue of 107.6 billion afghani having a growth of 4 percent. We must compensate for the most backward sectors by producing oil, cement, cotton, and sugar beets. This is a priority task; all party organizations, establishments, leadership cadres, and departments should work diligently to achieve this solution. It is necessary to be loyal to the pledges included in the law.

Fifth, comrades, the issue of national reconciliation touches the hearts of the Afghan peasants. The DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium decree on the fundamental principles of land and water usage is a great political, social, economic, and courageous initiative that takes into consideration the objective nature of our society under the conditions of national reconciliation and provides suitable working conditions for the peasants. The PDPA's strategic aims on the questions of land and peasantry, as enshrined in the PDPA's program of action, remain unchanged. No hesitation or deviation exists or could exist in this regard.

How can the new approach be summarized? The party's attitude toward realizing the land policy is changing fundamentally. Defending the interests of average farmers will be stressed. Farmers who received land after the revolution and who have worked it will have the right to use it indefinitely.

The land ownership ceiling was fixed at a maximum of 100 jeribs [1.1 hectares] instead of the previous 30 jeribs. Why?

First, the land and water reforms of the April Revolution have not brought about the desired results; they were stalemated. Of the confiscated land, 340,000 hectares of which were distributed to 340,000 landless families and small holders, at present only one-quarter — that is to say 25 percent — of this land is being utilized; basically it remains unused. There are many reasons for this and they are clear to us.

By distributing small pieces of land — that is, 5 jeribs — to landless peasants and small holders, we were unable to supply them with material resources, equipment and tools, seeds, chemical fertilizer, credit, and above all, water. This does not, however, mean that the land should not be worked. We are not so rich that we cannot work this land. We can no longer accept food shortages and rely on aid from the Soviet Union. This is why the decision was made to distribute barren land to those who can use it to increase agricultural production.

Second, fixing the maximum size of 30 jeribs for land-ownership artificially destroyed the size of land that was useful for the normal economy, as well as for the traditional relationship. At the same time, it exerted pressure on middle-class peasants. By announcing decrees based on strengthening the administration and control on land limits from 5-30 jeribs, and by showing interest in the immediate socialization of the villages, we have ignored the economic laws; and because of this, we have increased the maximum limit of land ownership to 100 jeribs. [sentence as heard]

This step does not mean ignoring the principles; it is an objective and political necessity. It will also be taken into consideration that those who play an important role in achieving national reconciliation, the cessation of war and bloodshed, and the restoration of peace and calmness in our country will enjoy unlimited land ownership rights. The national reconciliation commissions must approve the services of such patriotic persons.

Specific conditions will be created for private investors. They can create orchards and vineyards without size limits. They can create farms and large mechanized agricultural enterprises. These measures must attract new forces for the national economy.

The policy of the party and government as far as the observation of the principles of the sacred religion of Islam, traditions, and customs of the people are concerned, is very clearly shown. For example, the trust land will be unlimited. Land will be distributed among the heirs in a particular manner; that is to say, in accordance with the principle of Taraka [Islamic law on inheritance of property].

These issues will satisfactorily prove the principle that the party and sovereignty, upon considering the facts, have embarked on solving this very important matter.

The new approach will also meet the interests of poor peasants; that is, the landless peasants and small holders. The distribution of land will take place in different forms, taking into consideration the existing area of land in the specific region of production, its accessibility to water, and the size of the family.

The people themselves will play the fundamental role in solving the new land situation. Let us come and broaden democracy; let us come and give more trust to the sense of reasoning and rationality of our people.

It is very clear that the distribution of land and water forms a portion of the land program of the party. We should not forget that the complex land issue needs to be solved. Meanwhile, pure productivity requirements, that is, the agricultural needs of the peasants, also require attention. Here the Ministries of Agriculture and Land Reform, the Union of Peasantry Cooperatives, the Afghanistan Bank, the Ministries of Defense, State Security, Internal Affairs, and, in a word, the entire party and government have a formidable role to play.

We should also work to maintain and to promote a durable economy, a pricing policy, the government purchase system, and the government's reciprocal economic relations with producers of commodities. All these issues must integrate the villages into the economic principle of national reconciliation and base of reliance for the government's sovereignty.

The black market of chemical fertilizer, sowing seeds, and consumer commodities negate all government efforts to improve the people's standard of living. An organized, direct dispatch of essential commodities to the consumers is necessary. Who is responsible for solving this problem? Who is responsible before the plenum for demagoguery and indifference? We must utilize economic resources. For example, during the time of receiving assistance, the peasants must accept particular duties and responsibilities. Based on this principle, we can devise a system for the supply of agricultural production.

At this very moment the harvest of wheat from the autumn sowing is continuing in the country, and output is satisfactory. We must immediately start to supply wheat. Comrades Mohammad 'Aziz and Seyyed Nasim Mayhanparast must not allow the mistakes of past years to be repeated. During the current year, 130,000 tonnes of wheat, and possibly more, will be purchased.

A few words about cooperatives: The Union of Peasantry Cooperatives is commissioned to assist in realizing the PDPA's land policy. It should also promote democratic transformations in agriculture. This union, however, has not accomplished its fundamental duty. Instead, it has passed its responsibility on to the consumer cooperatives. The largest and most important cooperative, that is, the agricultural cooperative, must fall under the authority of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The party's social policy is one of the most important means of influencing the course of reconciliation. The huge scale of poverty

in the country, created by the undeclared war, has caused misery and great losses for practically every Afghan family. The allocation of huge human and financial resources to defending the revolution has intensified social problems. This pain and sorrow has reached all strata of society.

Taking care of the families of the martyrs of the revolution and improving the living standards of thousands of people who have laid down their arms and joined popular power requires particular attention. During the session of the month of Hamal [21 March-20 April], specific proposals were put forward on the creation of a special department for resolving these issues. Party members should seriously support this proposal.

The course of national reconciliation is of great importance to the international community. Its success will reduce tension in one of the explosive regions of the world -- the Middle East. It is obvious that the regional imperialist and reactionary circles are expanding the dimensions of this tension. They want to keep Afghanistan bleeding for a longer period and make the people homeless. They want to transform our homeland and the entire region into a new base of reaction in the Middle East. From this standpoint, the struggle for national reconciliation is seen as part of the international struggle for reducing tension and improving the international situation all over our planet.

It should be pointed out that the world public is well acquainted with the policy of national reconciliation and the measures taken in this regard by the leaders of Afghanistan. Particularly in socialist and nonaligned countries like Ghana, Libya, Mali, and Syria, the process of national reconciliation is widely discussed in the press. A visit by Vietnamese comrades to Afghanistan is envisaged. During their stay, they will learn the principles of the policy of national reconciliation. We have also received such requests from the leaderships of Cambodia, Angola, Yemen, Congo, Algeria, and Benin.

National reconciliation in Afghanistan will in time be a positive influence on the situation in the region. The policy also bodes well for reciprocal relations with neighboring countries, particularly Pakistan and Iran. If these countries cease their interference in the affairs of Afghanistan and guarantee that such activities will not resume, then we could form a natural basis for these relations. While assessing the prospect of Geneva talks, it is necessary to act according to the realization that their success to a large extent depends on how reasonable Pakistan's stance will be. A firm step has been taken toward strengthening relations with Iraq. The present situation demands that the international aspects of national reconciliation be examined more closely.

Let no one doubt that independent and nonaligned Afghanistan will always firmly remain a struggler for peace, cooperation, solidarity of the masses in the fight for peace, a world free from war, and social and national progress.

At the urging of party members during the extraordinary PDPA Central Committee plenum of the month of Jadi [22 December 1986-20 January 1987], an extraordinary situation was declared in the party and state. The issue of fundamental consolidation of discipline therefore arises with special emphasis. It should not be forgotten that membership in the party begins with discipline.

Primary organization begins with discipline. The army begins with discipline. The party begins with discipline. The more complicated the situation, the stronger the discipline should be. Success in work and ultimately the survival of the party and revolutionary order depends on this fact. We do not have enough discipline and maturity. We have still not learned how to perform our duties and how to achieve final results. We have thus far not learned to question those guilty of shortcomings. With such actions we (?diminish) the authority of the party and state. We do not in practice hold people criminally and administratively responsible for various types of [word indistinct]. We do not punish for overt and covert sabotage, laxity in performing duties, helping the enemy, theft, bribe-taking, and violation of discipline. Liberalism and self-deception never bears desirable results.

The path to victory passes through consolidation of party, state, and military discipline. This fact should be clear to every one. We will work with those who realize these facts and are prepared to strengthen discipline. In the meantime, discipline should be strengthened as democracy expands and strengthens. These two principles complement and enrich one another. Once again we stress the fact that democracy ought to develop within the framework of strict party discipline, like military discipline.

Life has proven that a revolutionary is not someone who utters revolutionary phrases, but someone who works every day and spares no effort. The revolutionary is the one who has the ability to attract people to the struggle. Finally, the revolutionary is one who can lead the masses of people toward progress.

The national reconciliation is the great school of struggle. All of us should learn from this school and take the exams of political maturity. We should successfully pass this exam.

We should act, launch an offensive, and be victorious. Such is today's slogan, the slogan of the plenum and of the party. We will act vigorously, we will launch a resolute offensive, and we will achieve victory.

275 Prisoners Released From Jail Under Amnesty
LD181658 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1130 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Kabul, 18 Jun (*Bakhtar*) — A total of 275 prisoners were released today from the Pol-e Charkhi jail in accordance with the amnesty decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium.

According to a BIA report, at a meeting in the courtyard of Pol-e Charkhi jail a number of the released prisoners spoke on behalf

of the others and gave assurance that henceforth they will engage in peaceful work on the side of the toiling compatriots.

A source in Pol-e Charkhi told the BIA correspondent that so far 2,990 prisoners have been released from Pol-e Charkhi jail under the amnesty decree of the Revolutionary Council Presidium.

Najibullah Attends Defense Ministry Party Session
LD182146 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, today attended a session of party activists at the Chief of the General Staff Headquarters of the DRA Defense Ministry and its central units. The meeting was held in the conference hall of the Defense Ministry.

A BIA correspondent reports that Comrade Najib arrived at approximately 1000 and was welcomed by Brigadier General Abdol Haq Ulomi, who heads the Armed Forces Department of the PDPA Central Committee; Major General Mohammad Nabi Azimi, first deputy defense minister; Brigadier General Zabihollah Ziarnal, head of Army political affairs; and a number of generals and high-ranking officials of the Defense Ministry.

Comrade Najib, having inspected the guard of honor, went to the conference hall of the Defense Ministry and took part in the session's work.

The report adds that at the beginning of the session Comrade Najib delivered a speech in which he said: Struggles to frustrate the national reconciliation policy by military means necessitate the assignment of (?important) duties to the Armed Forces, primarily the Army, to halt the counterrevolutionaries' activities; eliminate irreconcilable rebel bands; halt the destruction of depots, positions, and weapons convoys; and safeguard the DRA's borders with Pakistan and Iran. It is natural that the successful implementation of these duties requires further consolidation of the Army, the Sarandoy, and the state security bodies; we have taken steps in this direction. Comrade Najib added: We should strengthen the process of a unique planning system and [words indistinct] and control of the activities of all types and [words indistinct] of the DRA Armed Forces. [passage omitted]

Finance Minister Announces New National Budget
BK181710 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Excerpt] The national budget for the next fiscal year was presented to the Jatiya Sangsad [parliament] this afternoon. The budget proposed a revenue income of 4,915 crore taka and expenditure of 4,481 crore taka, leaving a revenue surplus of 434 crore taka. Announcing the budget, the finance minister, Mr M. Syeduzzaman said tax revenues will contribute 4,140 crore taka and nontax revenues 775 crore taka. The principal heads of revenue income are: income tax excise duty, land development tax, stamp duty, and import duty.

Like the current year, the education sector will receive the highest single allocation estimated at over 775 crore taka. Next year's expenditure for the health sector will also increase by about 48 crore taka over the original budget estimate for the current year. Other heads under which revenue expenditure is estimated to go up are interests on domestic and foreign debt, general administration, foreign affairs, and defense.

Food imports next year have been estimated at well over 20 lakh tons and domestic procurement target is 4 lakh tons. Distribution of food from government stocks has been estimated at 19 lakh tons, including rationing and open market sales. Out of these, 7 lakh tons will be distributed under the food-for-work program and the vulnerable group feeding scheme. Food production target for 1987-88 has been set at 1.75 crore tons. Of this, pulse will be 32 lakh tons, aman [paddy] 86 lakh tons, boro [a type of paddy] 43 lakh tons, and wheat 14 lakh tons. The latest estimate for the current year's food production is 1.65 crore tons, showing an increase of about 5.5 percent for the next year.

The Annual Development Program [ADP] of 1987-88 provides for 5,046 crore taka. The next fiscal year is the 3d year of the current 5-year plan. The ADP has been prepared keeping in view the implementation of planned projects, progress of the ongoing projects, and the major objectives and targets of the plan. In consistence of the major objectives of the 5-year plan, priority has been given to agriculture, industry, rural development, water resources, health and family planning, power and dams, and education. There are 828 projects in the ADP. Of these, 684 are investment projects, 54 projects will be implemented with internal resources, and 90 are technical assistance projects.

The sector-wise allocations include 170 crore taka for upazila [subdistrict] infrastructure development and 200 crore taka as development assistance to upazila parishad [subdistrict council], 883 crore taka for power sector, 309 crore taka for education, 279 crore taka for health and family planning, 357 crore taka for the Chittagong urea fertilizer factory, 88 crore taka for Tista barrage project, 50 crore taka for the Chittagong Hill Tracts, 45

crore taka for the current integrated development projects, and 30 crore taka as development assistance to pauro sabbas [municipal councils].

The finance minister said the Gross Domestic Product growth rate for the next year has been estimated at 5.1 percent. The rate during the outgoing fiscal year is expected to be 4.4 percent. He maintained that this growth rate is not unsatisfactory compared to that of other least developed countries.

The finance minister announced the enhancement of benefits to government employees. Dearness allowance at the rate of 10 percent of basic pay or wages to be granted to all government employees as well as other public sector corporation employees and workers who are paid under the modified national scale and IWWBC [expansion unknown] allowance will be subjected to an upper limit of 400 taka and lower limit of 75 taka per month. This benefit will also be given to pensioners at the same rate.

The finance minister said there is a gap of resources of over 416 crore taka to finance the annual development program of 1987-88. This gap is proposed to be met with new revenue and fiscal measures. The finance minister said the new fiscal policy of the government is aimed at infusing new life in the national economy. Justifying the taxation proposals, he said the main objectives of the proposals is to increase agricultural and industrial production, improve supply of all goods and services through higher production and imports, (create) opportunities for rapid industrialization, to improve investment and employment opportunities, stabilize price structure through increased supplies, maintain all-out efforts for increased exports, and reduction of population growth.

He said the resources that will be raised through proposed taxes will be used entirely for financing the annual development program. The domestic resources however will meet only 15 percent of the expenditure required for ADP, while 85 percent will come from foreign aid. The finance minister said: Due to restructuring and rationalization of duties and taxes, there will be a reduction of revenue in some cases, but the measures will have significant positive impact on the economy and help raise production and employment to a large scale. [passage omitted]

Opposition Calls For Strike To Protest New Taxes
BK190336 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] In Bangladesh, 20 opposition parties have called for a 6-hour general strike throughout the country on Sunday [21 June] to protest against new taxes in the 1987-88 budget. The new taxes will yield over 416 crore takas.

Opposition Alliance Projects 'Big Win' in Haryana

BK181610 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Results and trends in the Haryana assembly elections indicate that the Lok Dal-B-Bhartiya Janata Party [BJP] alliance is set for a big win. With 28 results declared so far, the alliance has captured 22 seats. The ruling Congress-I has got 1. The CPI-M and CPI have 1 seat each, while independents have bagged 3.

Trends in 46 constituencies show Lok Dal-B well ahead in 23 seats, BJP 11, the Congress-I in 6, independents in 5 and CPI in 1.

The day's prominent losers include the state irrigation and power minister, Mr Shamsher Singh Surjenwala from Narwana. He lost to his Lok Dal-B rival, Mr Tek Chand, by over 27,800 votes. The PWD [Power and Works Department] minister, Mr Phool Chand Mulana, lost to the BJP candidate, Mr Suraj Bhan, in the Mulana reserve constituency. The revenue minister, Mr Nirbal Singh lost to an independent candidate, while the minister of state for forest, Mr Om Prakash was defeated by Mr Brij Mohan of the BJP. The speaker, Mr Tara Chand, has lost (Taiwa) seat. [passage omitted]

The Congress-I general secretary, Mr Naval Kishore Sharma, has said his party accepts the verdict of the people of Haryana. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi this evening, Mr Sharma said he hopes that Mr Devi Lal [opposition Lok Dal leader] will be able to fulfill the promises made to the electorate.

Welcoming the success of the Lok Dal-B-BJP alliance, the general secretary of the Lok Dal-A, Mr Satyaprakash Malaviya, said it is high time the opposition parties emerge as a viable national alternative to the Congress-I.

The Lok Dal-B general secretary, the Congress-S, the Telugu Desam, and the Janata Party have welcomed the success of the alliance in Haryana.

Further Election Results

BK190216 Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi
0130 GMT 19 June 87

[Excerpt] Of the 68 results declared so far in the Haryana assembly elections, the Lok Dal-B and Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] coalition has won 58 seats. Of these, 45 seats went to the Lok Dal and 13 seats were won by the BJP.

The Congress-I won only three seats; the CPI and CPI-M won one seat each. Five independent candidates have also been elected. Only 19 results are still to come.

Lok Dal-B leader and former chief minister Devi Lal won the Meham seat by 25,000 votes. He defeated his nearest rival, (Parvath Singh) of the Congress-I. The leader of the BJP, (Basu Mangal Singh), won the Rohtak seat. He defeated Industries Minister Shri Kishan Das by a margin of more than 1,400 votes.

A meeting of the newly elected members of Lok Dal-B will be held in Chandigarh tomorrow, at which time they will elect their leader. The party's parliamentary board meeting will be held in New Delhi today to establish the work mode for the Lok Dal-B government in Haryana. [passage omitted]

Gurkha Separatists Ready To Launch 'Final War'

BK181730 Delhi PATRIOT in English 10 Jun 87 p 6

[Text] Darjeeling, June 9 (PTI, UNI) — Gurkha National Liberation Front (GNLF) president Subash Ghisingh, today said that the GNLF would shortly launch a final war for getting a separate land for the Gurkhas.

Mr Ghisingh said here that enough time had been given to both Central and State governments for a peaceful settlement but "our tolerance has reached the brink". The security forces and CPI-M cadres had let loose a reign of terror treating the hill people as "enemies".

He alleged that the CPI-M had set up two concentration camps, one at Siliguri and another in Long View Tea Garden, where innocent Gurkhas were being tortured.

Mr Ghisingh said the "organised torture" on the hill people had compelled the party to launch the movement. "We are left with no alternative", he said.

Referring to the recent talks between Chief Minister Jyoti Basu and Union Home Minister Buta Singh, he said barring the Prime Minister, nobody could realise the gravity of the issue. Delhi was "badly influenced by the Lal party in West Bengal". He said he would not accept any invitation for dialogue from anybody except Mr Gandhi.

He wondered "how the Government could be sympathetic to the suffering people of Jaffna in Sri Lanka and at the same time perpetrated torture on the hill people in Darjeeling".

Ghising said that the agitation was drifting "out of his hand" with some hardcores planning an "independent Gurkhaland" movement, adds UNI. He said the hardcores were frustrated at the Centre's delay in the proposed talks on Gurkhaland. I am under great pressure from them, he added.

Mr Ghising said he expected a meeting with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on 10 June. "But the Centre now wants time. I have no time since my democratic movement is being crushed under police atrocities".

Meanwhile, three persons including a policeman were seriously injured when two bombs were thrown at the Kurseong police control room allegedly by GNLF militants last night, Mr R K Handa, DIG [Deputy Inspector General], said here today. About 200 GNLF supporters raided the control room and threw bombs which damaged the walls of the room. Police fired five rounds to disperse the mob.

Meanwhile, 52 people were arrested in connection with earlier incidents of bomb blast in the town.

TIMES Says Pakistan-Sri Lanka Axis Developing
BK180920 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA
in English 10 Jun 87 p 8

[Editorial: "Axis in Making"]

[Text] Every signal sent out by Colombo since the Indian Air Force planes dropped relief supplies to Jaffna's beleaguered population last Thursday, belies the hope that the Jayewardene government would suspend, if not abandon, its military operations against the Tamils and agree to return to the negotiating table. The large-scale offensive launched by the Sri Lankan security forces from their camps in Palay and Thondamannaru has been so vigorous that it may be only a question of hours before they take up positions on the very door-steps of Jaffna town. The havoc that this "limited operation" will wreak on the civilian population may not be a matter of great concern to the Jayewardene government or to other governments in the neighbourhood, which have lost no time to upbraid India for its relief actions. But in India, it can only provoke intense concern and even indignation. And as if the renewed offensive against the Tamils is not provocation enough, the Sri Lankan authorities seem to be going out of their way to further bruise Indian susceptibilities. The anti-India hysteria whipped up in the press and the open encouragement given to the Buddhist clergy and to members of the ruling party to stage noisy demonstrations opposite the Indian high commission and the high commissioner's residence are unmistakable signs that the mood in Colombo is by no means conducive to an early return to the path of a negotiated settlement.

Nor is this all. The reports that Sri Lanka has sought Pakistani assistance to strengthen its air defence capability and that Pakistan may be willing to extend such assistance can only confirm New Delhi's worst suspicions. These reports do not, of course, come entirely as a surprise; for Islamabad has seized every opportunity in the past three years to endorse the Jayewardene government's military designs against the Tamils and, far more significant, has followed up its support with assistance by way of arms and training. A sharp rise in the level of such assistance may well enable Islamabad not only to repay an old debt — which it incurred when Colombo granted transit facilities to the Pakistani air force during the 1971 military operations in the then East Pakistan — but it could also enable it to widen the rift between Tamil-speaking Hindus and Muslims and to build another point of pressure against this country. The impact on Indian public opinion of any direct Pakistani involvement in the crisis in Sri Lanka need hardly be spelt out. It would also reduce to a shambles New Delhi's efforts to persuade Colombo that a political solution to the crisis is still possible. On the present reckoning, however, the Jayewardene government seems to be determined to embarrass New Delhi in every conceivable way. That alone can explain its reported decision to raise the strictly bilateral issue arising out of India's relief mission at the forthcoming meeting of SAARC.

All these developments taken together leave India with no choice other than to adopt an attitude of utmost firmness. Any prevarication at this stage is bound to be construed as a sign of weakness by Colombo and by its supporters in and outside the region.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Speaks on Gulf Security

LD191024 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] The Supreme Defense Council convened last night. At the end of the session, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, spokesman for the Supreme Defense Council, granted an interview to our correspondent. He spoke about the issues discussed at the meeting, the victories scored by the fighter of Islam during the "Fath-6" operations, and issues related to the Persian Gulf. Please listen to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, please tell us what topics the Supreme Defense Council discussed and what the latest reports are on the successes scored by the fighters of Islam in the "Fath-6" operations.

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the Almighty. A large part of today's council meeting concerned the Persian Gulf. The defense plans of the Navy and the Revolution Guards Corps naval forces were discussed. We had been commissioned to study these at the previous meeting and during this latest session we discussed the issue up to a point. Miscellaneous issues related to the war, as well as the dispatch of more forces, both from the Mobilization Corps and from the conscripts, were also discussed.

Revolution Guards Commander Mr Mohsen Reza'i submitted a full report on "Fath-6," and he detailed the sensitive centers and the areas which the fighting forces have occupied, such as Mirgah Sur and the important heights around it, as well as important highways in the region that are lines of communication. These were interesting issues and reports on them will gradually be published.

[Correspondent] As for developments in the Persian Gulf, could you please tell us about the (?positions taken) concerning acts of aggression?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] We have stated our opinions repeatedly. We have guarded Persian Gulf security since the war began, and we have attached great importance to security as well. We now believe that all those who want to enter the Persian Gulf on the pretext of Persian Gulf security are acting quite contrary to their allegations. In other words, they want to cause tension rather than ensure security. If they want security, we are ensuring it. There is only one way to ensure security, and that is for Iraq to stop its mischief. But they are acting contrary to their allegations. International forces and foreigners are coming here. What can we do? Of course, we (?view) some of this as political. Those who have made a point of showing us how far the crisis had gone and have caused a commotion are trying to boost Saddam's morale with all this hue and cry. They think they are weakening the morale of our fighters and forces. However, they have not achieved anything by choosing the path of war and insecurity.

The Russians — the Soviets — who held discussions here with us have apparently chosen a logical stand. They have realized that their first attempt was incorrect, and now they have emphasized their opposition to a U.S. presence in the region and their unwillingness to tolerate any increase in the U.S. military presence. However, the Americans, or at least Mr Reagan himself

and some of his aides, along with the Defense Department, are putting on a show of adventurism. It is unlikely that they will be able to do what they say. Nevertheless, we should be prepared. The armed forces and the government, as well as the people, should be ready. Even if there is little chance of anything happening, we should be careful.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much. [end recording]

Chief Justice Comments on Gulf Tension

LD191141 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Political and religious Friday prayer ceremonies were held throughout the country today. The Muslim people of Tehran were at Tehran University and in the adjacent streets to hold the Friday prayers under the leadership of Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili.

In the Friday prayer ceremonies in Tehran today, which were attended by more than 50 combat battalions from the I Sarallah Corps, the designated defenders of the Persian Gulf, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, chief justice of the Supreme Court, spoke about the scholarly and political life of His Holiness Imam Ja'afar Sadeq, peace be upon him, on the occasion of the anniversary of his martyrdom. He also explained the reasons for that imam's opposition to the caliphs of Bani-Ummayah and Bani-Abbas.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili referred to the Persian Gulf crisis, which has been caused by America and its servants, and stressed: If Reagan believes that our forces will put up their hands if they see the U.S. fleet, he is badly mistaken. Those who have seen our strong youth, including the Revolution Guards Corps, the Army and Mobilization Corps, understand that surrendering is not part of our thinking. He added that if Reagan loses his senses and enters this dangerous area, he should know that our youth will defend their honor, prestige, and humanity with all their strength.

Has Reagan thought of what he is going to say to the relatives of U.S. Marines when he takes their dead bodies to their families?

The chief justice of the Supreme Court, repeating the demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the ending of the Iraqi regime's imposed war, said: We have repeatedly stated we are not warmongers and aggressors; we have no designs on the territorial waters or land of any country, but we will defend our honor to the last drop of our blood. If the world wants security in the Persian Gulf it should know that this security will only be violated by Saddam's wrongdoing and nothing else. We repeat that if the Persian Gulf is not secure, then the responsibility rests with those who create tension.

The chief justice of the Supreme Court stressed that the arrival of U.S. Marines and war materiel in the Persian Gulf, and the subsequent tension can all be regarded as moves to back Saddam; we will fight anybody who enters the war on his side.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili then referred to the "Fath-6" and "Nasr-3" operations. Praising the Islamic fighters and their victories in these operations, he said: There are now four currents in northern Iraq fighting Saddam, begun by a large number of Iraqi ulema. It is an Islamic revolution movement, not a party movement.

The chief justice of the Supreme Court ended his sermons by addressing the youth and combat volunteers, saying: If you join the reinforcements on the battlefields, you can be sure that there is only one step between us and victory.

Khomeyni Receives 15 Khordad Foundation Officials
LD181327 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
 1030 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that the authorities in charge of the 15 Khordad Foundation from around the country, members of the foundation's Industrial Council, members of the technical office of 15 Khordad Dam, as well as Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Sheykh Hasan Sa'nei, the imam's representative and supervisor of the 15 Khordad Foundation, accompanied by families of the martyrs of Khak-e Faraj of Qom, supervisors and members of the Economic Court and the Constitutional Law Court, met with Imam Khomeyni in his Jamaran residence this morning. Ramazani and members of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps stationed in Jamaran, together with their families, were also present. [passage omitted]

At the end of the meeting, the imam of the ummah responded to the expression of feeling by those present.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Communique on 'Fath-6' Operations
LD181303 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
 1030 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Communique issued by Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters on 18 June]

[Text] In the Name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Heroic and steadfast Iranian nation! Following the recent wrongdoing by Iraq's Ba'thist-Zionist regime in the northern part of that country, its use of chemical weapons against the Iraqi Kurdish people, and its actions in making homeless many people in Iraqi Kurdistan, in response to futile enemy attempts to transfer the center of the fighting to the Persian Gulf and spread it to other countries, the forces under the command of the Ramadan Headquarters, composed of the 65th Hijrat and Malik Ashtar Brigades, the independent special martyrdom battalion [organ-e vizheh mostaqel-e shahadat], the Hezbollah, the Democratic Party of Iraqi Kurdistan, and the Islamic Call Party of Iraq, early yesterday began the "Fath-6" operations on two fronts in the general area north of Irbil in Iraq.

On the first front, the forces of Islam attacked the positions of the Zionist enemy in the (Kever) and (Salim Khan) Heights and cleansed those two sensitive and strategic heights from the filthy

existence of the Saddamists. During these lightning attacks 80 percent of one battalion of the Iraqi regime's forces and the 38th Jaysh al Sha'bi Battalion were destroyed. More than 300 enemy forces were killed or wounded and a number of them were captured by the forces of Islam. A large quantity of weapons and ammunition were captured by the Iraqi Kurdish peshmerga.

On the second axis of these operations the powerful forces of Islam, supported by the fighting Iraqi Kurdish forces, broke through to the town of Mirgah Sur in Iraq. In a heroic battle with the defeated Iraqi forces they succeeded in mopping up the strategic Qalandar Heights and blocking the Mirgah Sur-Diyana road. On this axis of operations the communications link at (Mazdeh) was destroyed and the battalion (?guarding) that region was smashed by the forces of Islam.

Following the infiltration of the forces of Islam into Mirgah Sur, heavy clashes took place between the forces of Islam and the Iraqi armed forces. During these clashes the forces of Islam succeeded in destroying a number of government buildings, including the premises of the enemy security organization, as well as the buildings of the governorate and gendarmerie of that town. The forces of Islam killed more than 400 other Ba'thist mercenaries and captured a number of them.

Following the blows against the Ba'thist enemy in that region, the Iraqi armed forces sent a battalion from Diyanah to Mirgah Sur in an attempt to confront the forces of Islam, but it was completely smashed as the result of a timely ambush by the forces of Islam. With the destruction of a majority of the equipment and personnel of the Iraqi forces in the "Fath-6" operations, the number of Iraqi dead and wounded in those operations reached 1,000. The number of POWs captured in those operations reached 137; they are now being evacuated behind the lines inside Iraqi territory.

'Nasr-3' Operations Detailed
LD181428 Tehran IRNA in English 1411 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Southern war theater, June 18, IRNA — Some 1,000 Iraqi troops were killed and wounded when Iranian ground forces along with a unit from Islamic Republic gendarmerie Forces attacked enemy troop concentration centers in Zobeydah, north of Faqqeh, southwestern Iraq at 23:45 hours local time (20:15 GMT) Wednesday.

During the hit and run operations codenamed "Nasr-3" and carried out with the objective of destroying Iraqi war machine, Iranian combatants inflicted irreparable casualties on units of Iraqi Brigade 98 of Division 18, Brigade 18 of Division 14 and Brigade 703 of Division 20.

An Iraqi tank battalion was also routed in the course of the attack by Muslim forces who also took prisoner a group of Ba'thist troops and seized a large amount of weaponry. 53 Iraqi POWs have so far been transferred behind frontlines.

Iranian combatants had also launched "Fath-6" operations north of Iraq's Irbil early on the same day.

7 Iraqi Battalions Routed*LD181843 Tehran IRNA in English 1815 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Tehran, June 18, IRNA — Seven Iraqi battalions were routed by 40-80 percent in the course of the blitz "Nasr-3" operations launched against enemy troop concentration sites north of Zobeydah, southeastern Iraq late Wednesday, according to Khatem ol-Anbiya' headquarters here today.

The routed Iraqi units were Battalions 1, 2, 3 of Brigade 95, Division 14, as well as Battalions 1, 2, 3, of Brigade 95 [brigade number as received], Division 18 and Battalion 1 of Brigade 703, Division 20.

The headquarters said that during the operations Iranian combatants killed and wounded 1,000 Iraqi troops and captured a group of others, of which 62 POWs have so far been transferred behind the fronts. Iranian forces besides totally destroyed 20 Iraqi tanks and armoured personnel carriers seizing intact several enemy howitzers and other weaponry in these successful operations.

Iraqi Positions Bombed*LD181738 Tehran IRNA in English 1724 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Tehran, June 18, IRNA — Iranian fighter bombers severely bombarded rallying points and positions of Iraqi forces in the "Nasr-3" theatre at 05:07 GMT Thursday. All attacking planes returned safely to their bases after inflicting heavy losses upon the enemy.

Iraq Shells Residential Areas*LD181751 Tehran IRNA in English 1726 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Tehran, June 18, IRNA — Iraq shelled the southern Iranian port cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr, in Khuzestan Province, over the past 24 hours. Some residential units in the two cities were damaged as a result of these attacks.

Kurds Destroy Training Center*LD181818 Tehran IRNA in English 1811 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Tehran, June 18, IRNA — At least 500 Iraqi forces were killed or wounded when Peshmergas of Iraq's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) destroyed the 'Wasr' training garrison in Irbil Province (n. Iraq) in continuance of the victorious "Fath-6" operations, said Khatem ol-Anbiya' headquarters Thursday. During the heavy clash, the Peshmergas were backed by the devastating artillery fire of forces under command of Ramadan Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC).

Two fresh Iraqi battalions, which were under training at the garrison, sustained heavy casualties and damage. Seven 130-mm guns as well as several light and heavy vehicles of the enemy troops were also destroyed.

Meanwhile, the Peshmergas also set afire a considerable amount of armoured equipment of the Iraqi forces in another area of the province destroying several tanks, loaders, mortar launchers, light and heavy weapons as well as three large munitions depots.

Muslim combatants of Iran in coordination with the Iraqi Kurdish Muslim Peshmergas launched "Fath-6" operations, north of Irbil city, northeastern Iraq early Wednesday.

Prime Minister Affirms Nuclear Energy Policy

*BK180844 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said the social uplift and economic well-being of the people must receive the highest priority in all development from a democratic government. He was inaugurating the 12th International Nathia Gali Summer College on physics and contemporary needs in Islamabad this morning. The prime minister said Pakistan is determined to spare no effort to invest whatever we have [words indistinct] channelize to procure on our social-economic development program to improve the lot of our people.

Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo categorically stated that Pakistan's program in atomic energy is entirely peaceful in nature and is solely directed to meeting our energy requirements for socio-economic development. In the recent past, he said, Pakistan's modest and harmless nuclear energy program has been subjected to a renewed campaign of misinformation. Pakistan, he pointed out, is definitely short of energy so much so that the situation is already hurting industry and agriculture. Nuclear power has an important and major role to play in overcoming the shortage of conventional fuel. For this purpose the infrastructure of nuclear science and technology must be built upon a sound basis and as well as possible.

The prime minister stated that Pakistan has no desire to acquire nuclear weapons. In fact, we want to free the people of South Asia from the threat of nuclear weapons and military uses of nuclear technology. Pakistan is, therefore, opposed to a nuclear arms race in South Asia. In this context, he said, Pakistan has made several proposals including that of creating a nuclear-free zone in this region. The proposal has won overwhelming support of the UN General Assembly. Pakistan is ready to cooperate with countries of the South Asian region to undertake any positive step to keep the region free from nuclear weapons. All the countries should sit down together and work out a mutually agreed policy of nonproliferation.

Junejo To Pay Official Visit to Japan 12 Jul

*BK190404 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 19 Jun 87*

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo will pay a 5-day official visit to Japan at the invitation of Prime Minister Nakasone. A delegation of (?ministers), parliamentary members, and senior officials will accompany him. The prime minister will exchange views with his Japanese counterpart on bilateral affairs and matters of mutual interest. He will also meet with Emperor Hirohito.

Radio Pakistan's diplomatic representative says that relations between Pakistan and Japan are expanding and that these relations will be further strengthened by the prime minister's visit. In his talks with Japanese leaders, the prime minister will apprise them of the restoration of democracy in Pakistan and will urge Japan to invest in Pakistan's developmental programs. They will also discuss the possibilities of establishing joint ventures.

Iranian Official, Mahbubul Haq Review Trade Plans

*BK181529 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] A Pakistan-Iran committee will review specific proposals for boosting bilateral trade. The committee's recommendations will be drafted in the light of a memorandum of understanding signed by the two countries last year. This was decided at a meeting between Iranian deputy minister of economic and financial affairs, Dr Ali Akbar Afje'i, and Pakistan's federal minister of commerce, Dr Mahbubul Haq, in Islamabad today. Dr Mahbubul Haq said that Pakistan will respond positively to the deep interest shown by the Iranian delegation leader in increasing bilateral trade.

DAWN Reports Highlights of Revised Budget

BK181249 Karachi DAWN in English 13 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, June 12: The following are the highlights of the relief and concessions announced in the National Assembly on Friday [12 Jun] evening in the 1987-88 budget.

— Defence tax is withdrawn in toto which will reduce the burden of new taxes to the tune of Rs 1138 crore.

— Extra taxes of Rs 265 crore on kerosene and diesel withdrawn.

— Excise duty imposed on small restaurants (non-airconditioned) which amounts to Rs five crore withdrawn.

— Iqra [literacy program] surcharge of Rs nine crore on the import of pharmaceuticals withdrawn which reduce the income by Rs 13 crore.

— Extra surcharge of Rs 23 crore on gas on domestic use also withdrawn.

— The extra taxes of 10 per cent on electricity for domestic use up to 300 units reduced to five per cent.

— Surcharge on the use of electricity by bigger consumers and industries increased by five per cent.

— Rs 512 crore to be saved from current expenditure.

— Rs 500 crore curtailed in the allocations for 1987-88 ADP [Annual Development Plan].

— An income of Rs 400 crore to be generated by controlling tax evasion.

— Rs 250 tax per ticket on foreign air travel which would generate an income of Rs 10 crore. Haj pilgrims would be exempt from this tax.

— Import licence duty increased from two to four per cent which would fetch additional revenue of Rs 170 crore.

— Total decrease in the expected income due to these reliefs and concessions is to the tune of Rs 1444 crore.

— Additional disinvestment of Rs 190 crore to be done effectively.

— Concession of Rs 135 crores on customs withdrawn.

— The limit of taxable income reduced from Rs 30,000 to Rs 24,000 which will increase income by Rs 19 crore.

— An extra profit of Rs 50 crore is estimated from expected future prices of cotton.

— The proposal announced for increasing the limit of income tax exempted under the monthly income scheme withdrawn which will add Rs 35 lakh to income.

— The Prime Minister will use a car of 1600 cc, Minister — 1300 cc, and Secretary — 1000 cc car.

— Every Minister will deposit an amount of Rs 1000 as austerity measure out of his salary every month to the national exchequer and every member of Pakistan Muslim League Parliamentary Party will deposit Rs 500 out of his salary every month to national exchequer.

MUSLIM Criticizes Government on Budget Reversal

BK181147 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
14 Jun 87 p 4

[Editorial: "Comedy of Errors"]

[Text] A comedy of errors was enacted in the National Assembly yesterday with Prime Minister Junejo doing a complete policy volte-face on the fiscal measures proposed in the budget announced eight days back. He declared that the Government was withdrawing the defence tax and other taxes on items that directly hit the common man. However, the extraordinary spectacle of a ruling party congratulating itself for this policy reversal involved a curious inversion of logic. This amounted to making a virtue out of what can charitably be called a mistake.

The Prime Minister ignored the widely respected principle in a parliamentary system, that a government resigns or seeks a vote of confidence on a major policy defeat especially its budget. (The most fundamental item of a government's policy.) Of course in this case it was not a defeat on the floor of the house but the budget was disowned by the ruling party itself. This meant a no-confidence verdict in the government from within the party. The Prime Minister explained at length how an awami [popular]

government had responded to popular opinion in withdrawing the unpopular taxes. Members of the Parliamentary Muslim League thumped their desks in self-congratulation, while Finance Minister Yasin Wattoo explicitly congratulated the House. "We are the people's representatives", the Prime Minister declared, "responsive to popular opinion". But this claim of being an 'awami hakoomat' [popular government] (to justify a policy reversal) is an ex-post facto argument. It was several days of street agitation and bazaar shutdowns (what the PM called public 'retaliation') that persuaded the Government to submit to the popular will and announce changes. Where was sensitivity to the 'common man' when the Government formulated the budget proposals, approved them in the cabinet and laid them before Parliament on June 4? Either there was no such sensitivity or the Government did not understand the implications of its own fiscal proposals and therefore could not anticipate the public's response. In either case, this scarcely suggests government responsibility. To applaud itself now in the name of 'awami democracy' is an insult to the people's intelligence.

As a symbolic gesture to demonstrate that austerity begins at home, the Prime Minister announced the withdrawal of limousines from Ministers, Generals and bureaucrats with the rhetorical flourish that "We will put the Generals in Suzukis". Why as an afterthought, which makes the move look like a gimmick? The Government was forced to attempt official austerity only when the people delivered a resounding 'no' to the government's budget.

"We want to assure the nation that we will always carry them with us", the Prime Minister proclaimed. Next time the government ought to, as it should have in this case, think through its policies before moving to implement them. The high parliamentary drama on the withdrawal of taxes does not conceal the substance of the whole budget affair — a government that damages its own credibility by framing proposals that cannot stand the test of popular opinion and then reversing these by using the curious logic that we are an 'awami government'. The new policy was made in the bazaars and streets of Pakistan and not as the Prime Minister claims, by an 'awami government'.

If the government did not act responsibly during the whole budget-making and revision affair, neither did the opposition on Friday. To have used a non-budget issue (concerning the farm of a member) to try to filibuster proceedings, rather than focus on the budget itself, was regrettable and showed a lack of political maturity. Both the government and the Parliamentary opposition resorted to gimmicks at a time when far more was expected of them.

Prime Minister Assails Indian Interference

*BK181328 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 18 Jun 87*

[Text] Prime Minister R. Premadasa has said that India will not be able to break the will of the people of Sri Lanka. Even the British with all their might were not able to do so. Inaugurating the Kirindegama reawakened village in the Tissamaharama electorate yesterday, Mr Premadasa said that although foreign powers had ruled Sri Lanka several times in the past, they failed to subjugate the people. This situation will not change in the future as well. If a foreign power imposed its will, we would not hesitate to overcome it by self-reliance and efforts.

Referring to a statement made by the opposition leader, Anura Bandaranaike, that he would invite Mr Gandhi to visit Sri Lanka if he came to power, Mr Premadasa pointed out that the people of Sri Lanka were always ready to welcome him as a state leader. But he emphasized that the nation was not at all prepared to welcome him as a conqueror.

Referring to the recent activities of India, the prime minister pointed out that these actions have been condemned by nations friendly to Sri Lanka. He added that they have urged the Indian Government not to interfere with Sri Lanka's sovereignty. Mr Premadasa also accused foreign powers of inciting terrorists who receive royal treatment in India despite the massacre of members of the Mahasangha [Buddhist clergy] and innocent people.

Liberation Front Members Arrested for Base Attack

*BK180648 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0620 GMT 18 Jun 87*

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, June 18 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Nineteen JVPers [Janata Vimukthi Peramuna — People's Liberation Front] have been arrested by the Negombo police and the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) in connection with the attack on the airforce base, Katunayake on June 07, police told *Lanka Puwath*.

Police said that a gang of 40 JVPers were responsible for the attack on the airforce base. According to the police weapons have been recovered from several homes occupied by the arrested JVPers.

When the JVP gang attempted to over run the first sentry point leading to the airforce base, three JVPers were shot dead by the airforce and seven JVPers were captured when they attempted to escape.

On the same day another gang suspected to be members of the JVP attacked the Kotalawela Defence Academy at Ratmalana, killed a soldier and removed some weapons. This defense academy was instituted to give scientific university training to army officers. Investigations are underway to arrest the others.

Marxist Sinhalese, Tamil Extremists Links Probed

*BK181259 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
1015 GMT 18 June 87*

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, June 18 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Criminal Investigation Department (CID) detectives have begun probing suspected deep links between the southern proscribed Marxist party the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) [People's Liberation Front] and the principal gangs of Tamil separatist terrorists operating in northern and eastern Sri Lanka, police told *Lanka Puwath* today.

This follows certain evidence that has transpired during the current investigations into the recent attacks on the Sri Lanka Air Force base at Katunayake, the military academy at Kotalawelapura, Ratmalana and the army camp at Pallekalee.

Police also told *Lanka Puwath* it was believed that already 20 suspects involved in the Katunayake Sri Lanka Air Force base attack have been arrested by the uniformed police and CID and are now under detention. A number of stolen weapons have been recovered. Some of the stolen weapons from the Katunayake Air Force Base were found buried in the garden of a suspect in Negombo, the north west sea board on Sri Lanka.

Police also told *Lanka Puwath* that preliminary inquiries made by detectives pointed to conspiracy to destabilise the law and order situation in the government. The investigations also have shown that there were close Marxist links between the JVP and the northern and eastern terrorists, which were being probed further.

